The Post

Sunday Special

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GREAT BATTLE ON THE PIAVE

MASS ATTACKS ON ITALIAN FRONT.

GERMANS HEAVY DEFEAT—VITAL SALIENT HELD.

BRITISH REPULSE NEW ENEMY EFFORT AT BULLECOURT.

Sir Douglas Haig reports a new German attack east of Bullecourt, which was completely repulsed.

British troops made a raid north of Bullecourt, taking prisoners and destroying dugouts, while Portuguese troops obtained prisoners in patrol encounters.

A British destroyer is reported sunk after collision. All the officers and crew are saved with the exception of two men.

The Admiralty report the loss of two non-rigid airships. One is believed to have been destroyed by a hostile seaplane in the southern part of the North Sea. The second one was forced to descend in Holland through engine failure.

In the fourth day of the severe battle being waged on the Italian front the Germans launched many massed attacks on the Allied positions. They made ground after repeated failures at Col Caprile, but all attacks on the Mount Solarolo salient were heavily repulsed.

An enemy attack in the region of Chaume Wood (right bank of Meuse) is reported in the night Paris communique. The attack, which was preceded by a violent bombardment, was frustrated.

NEW GERMAN ATTACK AT BULLECOURT.

(FROM FIELD-MARSHAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG.)

British General Headquarters, France, Saturday, 10 p.m.

Yesterday evening the enemy made another local attack east of Bullecourt, but was completely repulsed.

This afternoon we carried out a successful raid north of the village, in which we captured prisoners and destroyed the enemy's dugouts.

On another portion of the front a few prisoners were also taken during the night by Portuguese troops in patrol encounters.

On the Ypres front there has been further local fighting during the day in the neighbourhood of Poldershoek Chateau without material change in the situation.

Hostile artillery has shown considerable activity to-day in the neighbourhood of Hargicourt and Flesquieres, between Gavrelle and Lens, and in the Passchendaele sector.

BATTLE FOR PIAVE LINE—ITALIANS' SPLENDID STAND.

London, Saturday Night.

The violent battle which the German-Austrian troops opened in the middle of the week in the mountain district between the Brenta and the Piave is still being waged with undiminished severity.

Last night's Italian report shows the enemy yesterday launched mass attacks on Friday. These were met by a spirited defence, and by this means or by counter-attack the Italian positions were retained generally.

The chief result obtained by the Central Powers as a result of these costly attacks was that they succeeded in reaching Col Caprile (in the Breena region).

Rome to-night claims the capture of forty more officers and over 3000 men.

MASS ATTACKS ON ITALIANS.

Rome, Saturday Night.

An official report arrived here to-night with the new attacks by Austro-German forces. The report says:—

"Friday, the fourth day of the battle between the Brenta and the Piave, the two wings of the enemy's operations were again the Col Caprile Cil Della Berretta sector and the salient of Mount Solarolo.

Severe Mass Attacks.

Together with these two offensive actions of the Austro-Germans the Italians carried out a brief counter-offensive to lighten the pressure at the Mount Pertica region.

On Col Caprile and Col Della Berretta the enemy succeeded in advancing his line of occupation somewhat, not only from the preponderance of his masses of infantry, but also from the concentrations of fire which his battery emplacements in this area permitted him to effect.

The struggle began about 6.30 a.m. with an intense artillery preparation. With this bombardment, which lasted until 10 a.m. (?), large masses of Austrian infantry attacked the whole area between Col Caprile and Mount Partica. The Italian front line was destroyed, but notwithstanding this the defenders sustained the attack, and the supports vigorously drove back the waves of enemy.

But another furious concentration of fire allowed the enemy to repeat the assault, reaching Col Caprile and pass our line, which was then immediately withdrawn further back. The enemy did not continue his pressure owing to the losses inflicted on him by the Italian fire and the weariness of his troops.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

ENEMY POWERS AT VARIANCE.

AUSTRIA'S QUARREL WITH HUNGARY.

PAYMENT FOR DAMAGE DONE BY RUSSIA.

Zurich, Saturday.

The international dissensions between Austria and Hungary over food supplies and other questions are reaching an acute stage.

The Neue Frie Presse states that conferences between Austrian and Hungarian officials, which have been held in Buda Pest and Vienna in connection with the delivery of fats, pigs, grain, and flour from Hungary to Austria, both ended without result. In consequence, a joint Ministerial Council is to be summoned for the purpose of trying to arrive at an agreement.

A sharp and unpleasant controversy has also arisen between Austria and Hungary over the question of the payment of the cost of repairing the loss and damage occasioned by the Russian invasion of the Carpathians, Galicia, and the Bukovina. Hungary demands that each country shall pay its own share, which, so far as Hungary is concerned, is a very small item, as the Russian penetration into the Carpathians caused only small damage. On the other hand, the devastation wrought in the Austrian Crown lands of Galicia and Bukovina was enormous, amounting to very many millions of kronen. Austria contends that as Galicia acted as buffer States, thereby protecting Hungary against the Russians, the entire cost of reparation should be a common charge on the whole community.—Reuter.

MASSACRE OF GREEKS BY TURKS.

Widespread Indignation.

Athens (Received Saturday).

The succession of official reports which have been published describing the savage persecution, massacres, violation of women and girls, pillage, and other atrocities aiming at the systematic annihilation of the Greek element in Asia Minor and Greek Thrace have aroused indescribable indignation throughout Greece.

Newspapers of all shades of opinion condemn in strongest language these outrages on the part of the Young Turks, whose anti-Greek policy will, they say, prove fatal to Turkey

Complete satisfaction is expressed with Sir Edward Carson's recent statement on the Balkan question, for it is considered that the best and most effective solution must be one embodying the collaboration of Roumania, Serbia, and Greece. This solution, in the opinion of newspapers, will do most to secure in every way the moral and material prosperity of the Balkan Peninsula.

PIAVE BATTLE—Continued.

More to the east towards Mount Pertica, while the enemy was preparing for the final attack at Col Caprile and Col Della Berretta the operation already referred to, which aimed at lightening the enemy pressure, was carried out by the Italians. The Italian detachments succeeded twice in rushing the summit of Mount Pertica, thus alarming the enemy, and inducing him to throw large forces into a counter-attack, and concentrate reserves in that zone so that his pressure at Col Caprile and Col Della Berretta was diminished.

Germans Repulsed With Severe Losses.

The special feature of the preparation for the new attacks of the enemy at Mount Solarolo salient was, besides the usual formidable artillery preparation, intense aerial activity. The first assault, which developed about 12.30 a.m., was completely repulsed, and the same fate awaited a concomitant attack in the sector west of the salient at Col Dell Orso.

The attack with larger forces and greater violence was repeated about four p.m., but it also failed under the fire and counter-attacks of the Italians.

The enemy has suffered heavy losses. The ground in front of the Italian lines is covered with dead.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

To-day's German official report claims capture in last few days of 40 officers, more than 3000 men, some guns, and machine-guns from the Italian front.

An exceptionally severe battle has been waged at Mount Solarolo, where enemy attempts have been repulsed.

The enemy, holding two wedges driven into the Italian line on either side of our Allies' salient of Solarolo, is making a persistent effort to nip that salient out, because if he allows it to remain it will hamper his further advance by serving as a good position from which to launch counter-attacks against the lines of communication on either side of it.

RUSSIAN PEACE TREATY.

DRAFT FINALLY FORMULATED.

LENIN DELEGATES WISH FURTHER INFORMATION.

Amsterdam, Saturday Night.

An official telegram from Berlin says the conditions in the draft treaty were finally formulated by both sides at the plenary meeting of the Russo-Germans yesterday at Brest Litovsk.

As, however, the Russian delegates desired to get supplementary instructions on some points from their Government, the general discussions will be continued this morning.

Yesterday afternoon's proceedings were occupied with the translation of protocols.

BRITAIN MAY DEPORT INTERNED RUSSIANS.

Petrograd (Received Saturday).

The Maximalist Petrograd News Agency issues the following note:—

We are able to declare that, in view of the explanations given by the British Ambassador to the British Government regarding the retention in Britain of MM. Chicherin and Petroff and others, the British Government has announced that it is prepared to re-examine the question of the detention of these, with a view to their return to Russia.

In view of this categorical declaration, the People's Commissary for Foreign Affairs has ordered that citizens of Great Britain shall be free to leave Russia on giving the general guarantees demanded of citizens of all countries, Allied and neutral. The dispute appears, therefore, to be settled.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS IN STOCKHOLM.

Herr Scheidemann's Activities.

Stockholm, Saturday.

The Social Demotraten states that coincident with the armistice discussions at Brest Litovsk secret conferences are taking place in Stockholm between the Bolshevik Minister in Stockholm and the German Majority Socialist Party. The paper understands that Herr Scheidemann has for some days past been staying in Stockholm.

Copenhagen, Saturday.

A Stockholm telegram to the Politiken confirms the report that Herr Scheidemann is at present in Stockholm. The paper also expresses the opinion that preparatory peace negotiations will probably, in the very near future, be opened in Stockholm, which city, it adds, may be the appointed city where peace will eventually be concluded.

GERMAN ATTACK AT CHAUME WOOD

Fails Under French Fire.

Paris, Saturday Night.

In the region of Miette we made a successful surprise attack on the enemy trenches to the south of Juvincourt, and brought back some prisoners.

On the right bank of the Meuse, after a violent bombardment, the Germans launched an attack in the region of Chaume Wood. Our fire compelled the attackers to disperse.

The artillery fighting continues rather lively in the whole of the sector.

Elsewhere the day was quiet.—Per French Night Official Report.

GERMANS "MIGHTY BLOWS" IN THE WEST.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

The German report dealing with the West front, says:—

For more than four weeks the British have discontinued their attacks in Flanders. Their violent offensive, which had for its objective the possession of the Flanders coast, and the destruction of our submarine bases, may therefore be considered closed for the present.

Nearly the whole of the British Army, reinforced by the French, have for more than three months struggled with our army in Flanders in order to obtain a decision. Here also German leaderships and German troops have been victorious, while at other points we have crushed the enemy by mighty blows.

The failure of the British Army in Flanders has been accentuated by the heavy defeat which it has suffered at Cambrai.

BRITISH NAVAL LOSSES.

DESTROYER SUNK IN COLLISION.

TWO AIRSHIPS LOST.

Admiralty, Saturday Night.

One of His Majesty's destroyers was sunk on the 12th inst. after being in collision.

All the officers and ship's company were saved, with the exception of two men who are missing, and presumed drowned. All the next-of-kin have been informed.

TWO BRITISH AIRSHIPS LOST.

Admiralty, Saturday Night.

A British airship of non-rigid type, with a crew of five, which proceeded on patrol on 11th December from an East Coast base, has not returned, and from information available it is believed that she has been destroyed by a hostile seaplane in the southern part of the North Sea.

A second airship of similar type was forced to descend in Holland, through engine failure, on December 12.

GERMAN WAR AIM PUZZLE.

BERLIN REPLY TO MR BALFOUR REFUTED.

London, Saturday Night.

Reuter's Agency is informed by Lord Robert Cecil that what purports to be the German reply to Mr Balfour's statement in Parliament regarding the German peace overture last September is quite untrue.

Following the lead of President Wilson, Great Britain has been continually endeavouring to find out what are Germany's war aims, and over and over again has endeavoured to get this information by means of Ministerial speeches, but so far without any success.

It is, however, utterly untrue to suggest that any inquiries of a private character have been addressed to the enemy with the knowledge of the British Government.

[Mr Balfour on Tuesday said that in September a communication was received from Germany through a neutral source to the effect that Germany would be glad to make a communication relative to peace. Britain sent a reply saying they would be prepared to discuss the matter with their Allies, but no further communication had been received from Germany. The German version, published on Saturday, was that Germany received at the beginning of September, through a neutral Government, a communication relating to German war aims so couched that it could with certainty be supposed that the neutral inquiry was made with the knowledge and sanction of the British Government.]

THE CASE OF M. CAILLAUX.

Paris, Saturday.

The Committee of Inquiry into the Caillaux case, after hearing another statement by M. Caillaux, has decided to summon M. Clemenceau, the French Premier, in his capacity of Minister of War.

The inquiry is being held in connection with a demand for authorisation to prosecute M. Caillaux for high treason. The case arises out of the arrest of Bolo, and also from the Bonnet Rouge affair, and the case is regarded as one of the most sensational of the war.

CANADIAN ELECTION.

Women Heckle Anti-Conscription Candidates.

Montreal (Received Saturday).

The women electors at Westmount refused to let the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux and the Liberal candidate, Mr Leduc, speak.

Although the meeting was called in the interest of the Laurier candidates, the women, almost without exception, were win-the-war supporters. They heckled Mr Lemieux, challenging his statements, finally rising en masse and leaving Mr Leduc speaking, and Mr Lemieux deserted.

The lady chairman, the wife of the Laurier candidate in Brome, was told that she should be ashamed to preside. On her demanding "Who said that?" several ladies shouted "All the women of Westmount"

MAN-POWER PROBLEM.

CHANCES OF AN INVASION.

PREMIER AND "NEW CONTINGENCIES."

London, Saturday Night.

There is one passage in Mr Lloyd George's speech (writes a correspondent) which perhaps deserves more attention than it received from the professional commentators.

After declaring that "Even now, after we have sent troops to the assistance of Italy, the Allies have a marked superiority of numbers in France and Flanders, and we have considerable reserves at home." The Prime Minister went on to say—"Much greater progress has been made in manpower, especially during the last few months, than either friends or foes realise, but it is not enough to enable us to face new contingencies without anxiety unless we take further steps to increase our reserves of trained men."

What are the "new contingencies" against which precaution must be taken?

Possibility of Invasion.

The possibilities of a German attack en masse on a selected sector or selected sectors of the Western front may be ruled out because that possibility had already been considered by the Prime Minister. Moreover, such an enterprise has been advertised so assiduously by the enemy in his own and the neutral press (which is traditionally given him to conceal his thoughts) that it would be in any event suspect.

There remain two principal projects. An onslaught on the Salonika armies and an attempted invasion of Britain.

The former has much to commend it from the German point of view, and even more from that of Germany's allies. But the difficulties attending a winter campaign in the Balkans must be balanced against the political advantages, and would probably tip of the scale.

The Cost and the Gain.

As for an invasion of this country, it is known that in the autumn of 1916 the Great Headquarters Staff had everything in readiness for the Kaiser to press the button, but the button was not pressed. The enterprise could hardly, of course, even under the conditions brought about by the development of aerial and undersea arms, hope for success in the sense of establishing a permanent front on British soil.

But it might seem to the Kaiser worth sacrificing some tens of thousands of the fighting men of the second grade released from the East in order to strike at the base of the Allied Armies, while simultaneously launching an attack in France.

GERMAN REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE EAST.

Their Military Value Greatly Exaggerated.

Press Camp, France, Saturday.

It is worth asking whether the fighting value of any German divisions which may be released from the Eastern front is likely to prove as high as seems to be taken for granted by some of the critics.

In the first place, the Germans have not been sending their best troops to the Eastern front for a long while past. In the second place, they have been freely milking their divisions on the Eastern side to repair the wastage on the Western front. Thirdly, the morale of the divisions in the East has probably been to some degree affected by the lack of fighting and by the fraternising which have formed the chief features of existence between the Baltic and the Black Sea for months past.

After such an ennervating life the German soldiers will not relish the prospect of being flung back into the furnace of the Western front. For example, one prisoner taken within the past week said that he had only lately arrived from the Russian front, and that in the year he had been over there his company had only suffered three casualties, and I have little doubt that this is a fairly characteristic experience.

Do not let me be misunderstood as seeking to minimise the situation which may arise out of the Russian peace proposal, but the confidence of our army in its ability to deal successfully with the worst the Huns can hope to do remains absolutely unimpaired by the alarming views which have become current.

Since we so satisfactorily carried out the tactical retirement to the strong line before Cambrai, the Germans have not attempted to exploit their very local success east of Bullecourt, and we have improved our own position hereabouts by bombing the enemy out of a length of support trench which we did not choose he should keep. A small enemy success south of Polderholk Chateau appears to have been due to the concentration of artillery that was brought to bear against the shallow trenches which it is only possible to dig in this waterlogged area.—Press Association Special Correspondent.

KNIGHT LINER FOUNDERS.

Survivors Landed at an Atlantic Port.

An Atlantic Port, Saturday.

A wireless message has been received from a steamer that she will land on Saturday 84 survivors from the Knight of the Thistle, which has foundered, probably in one of the recent terrific gales off the coast.—Reuter.

The Knight of the Thistle was a steamer of 2675 tons gross, built in Glasgow in 1903, and owned by the Knight S.S. Co. of Liverpool.

WAGES QUESTION INQUIRY

ADVOCATED BY SELECT COMMITTEE.

POINTED COMMENT ON NATIONAL SHIPYARDS

London, Saturday Night.

Several important questions are raised in the second report from the Select Committee on national expenditure issued here to-night.

Amongst the matters brought under review are:—

A proposal to institute an inquiry to ascertain what has been the actual increase in the cost of living to the working-classes:—

The question of advance of wages.

The use being made of the large force of volunteers.

The National Shipyards—Surprise is expressed that the scheme was embarked on without any estimate of the cost involved.

The Select Committee recommended—

(1) That the staff of the Treasury should be strengthened by the addition of men of ability and administrative experience from outside.

(2) That a more active financial supervision should be exercised by the Treasury over the departments. This supervision should aim at ensuring the adoption of sound financial methods in every province of administration, at preventing undue profits from being made by contractors, at preventing competition between departments in purchasing supplies, and in obtaining labour

(3) That the Treasury should hold a series of inquiries into the numbers and organisation of the large clerical staffs recruited by the various departments during the war.

(4) Above all, that in the exercise of a proper financial control, the Chancellor of the Exchequer should be enabled to feel that he has the support of the Cabinet, with whom the ultimate decisions rest.

Important Recommendation on Wages Question.

The recommendations of the Committee in respect of the aspects of the question of prices, which are dealt with in the report are—

(1) Whatever measures are possible should be taken by the Government to avoid the creation of new credits in financing the war.

(2) An inquiry should be set on foot to ascertain what has been the actual increase in the cost of living to the working-classes, and how far it has been counter-balanced by advances apart from wage advances due to war conditions.

(3) The measures for the limitation of profits should be continued and strengthened, and should be made more widely known to the people.

(4) The strongest case should be required to be established before any advance of wages is conceded on any ground other than the rise in the cost of living. Nor should it be regarded as a rule; and the Committee have no reason to think that labour in general desires that it should be that wage-earners in receipt of not inadequate pay before the war should be exempted from all share in the economic sacrifices involved in a state of war.

(5) A single policy under the general direction of one authority should be adopted in all industries in the determination of wage questions.

In a paragraph of the report in which reference is made to troops maintained in the United Kingdom the Committee say they cannot find that any definite conclusion has been reached by the War Office as to the use to be made of the large force of Volunteers now in receipt of equipment and grants from public funds.

As to employment of prisoners of war, the appointment of a small committee is suggested for the purpose of inquiring whether the existing methods could not be improved.

Surprise at National Shipyards Scheme.

The following reference is made to national shipyards:—The War Cabinet decided as a means of increasing the shipbuilding resources of the country to establish four national shipyards, with accommodation for thirty-two slips. We understand that the scheme is not in lieu of extensions to private yards, which are still being arranged so far as the resources of material and labour admit. It would be outside our province to express any opinion as to the policy involved in this decision, but we must express our surprise that the scheme was embarked upon without any estimate of the cost involved.

LINE EXTENDED NORTH OF JERUSALEM.

War Office, Saturday Night.

General Allenby reports that on the 12th inst. he further extended his line northeast of Jerusalem and that 140 prisoners were captured in these operations.

In other respects the situation is unchanged.

Since December 12 three enemy aeroplanes have been destroyed and one has been driven down out of control.

Athens (Received Saturday).

By the peoples of the East generally, and particularly Armenians and Greeks, who have suffered in more recent times from the destructive policy of the Young Turks, which during this war Germany has connived at, if not actually tolerated, the capture of Jerusalem by the armies of the democratic Powers is hailed with the utmost joy and will be regarded as a partial retribution for the late massacre of Armenians and the wholesale prosecution of Greeks in Turkey.

Second-Lieutenant George A. Sillars, H.L.I., has been killed in the operations in Palestine on 1st December. He was the only son of ex-Bailie Sillars, Helensburgh.

RABBI AND THE LADY.

PREACHER'S STRANGE ADMISSIONS IN COURT.

Judge Threatens Imprisonment.

London, Saturday.

Admissions of an astonishing nature were made in the High Court to-day—before Mr Justice Horridge—by Dr Jacob Meir Salkind, a Jewish Rabbi, who was called upon to show cause why he did not pay a sum of £19 6s 7d, the amount of the taxed costs up to the date of the setting down for trial of a suit by his wife, Somei Salkind, asking for a judicial separation on the ground of his adultery.

Examined as to his means, Dr Salkind said his stipend from the West Central London Synagogue was £104 a year, and beyond that he had nothing. As part of his duty he lectured on Jewish history and Jewish subjects at the institute connected with the synagogue, but he received no remuneration for that.

Mr J. E. Harris, for Mrs Salkind—Have you recently spent ten weeks' holiday at Brighton?—Yes.

The Lady Paid.

Who paid for that?—A lady I know.

You stayed with her?—Yes.

You, a Jewish Rabbi, who preach for the benefit of the community?—Yes.

Do you allow this lady anything?—I am not living there. I am living in London. I was staying with her as a guest.

Dr Salkind said that during the time of his visit he had a season ticket from London which was provided by the lady. He had not allowed his wife anything because he could not. His wife had prosecuted. She could earn more in two hours than he could in two weeks. She had taken everything from him, even his diplomas, and she had sold his library, consisting of 3000 volumes, without his knowledge, and had dragged his name in the mud so much so that it was difficult for him to earn more money.

Mr Justice Horridge made an order directing Dr Salkind to pay £1 a month, intimating that if he did not pay he might find himself sent to prison.

BANK MESSENGER DISAPPEARS

WITH WALLET CONTAINING OVER £500.

London, Saturday.

A messenger between the offices of a West End firm and the London and South-Western Bank, Fenchurch Street, City, has disappeared. With him has also disappeared a leather wallet containing £505 in notes and other documents.

The wallet is stamped "L. and S.-W. B.," and the notes are two of £100 each, six of £50, and five £1 Treasury notes. The messenger, whose name is J. Elliott, had been in the employ of the bank only three weeks.

The following is his description:—Age about 59, five feet ten inches in height, dark hair, turning grey; complexion very sallow; long thin face, hollow cheeks, clean shaven. On the back of his right hand is tattooed clasped hands with the word "friendship." He was dressed in a shabby dark grey suit, peaked cap, black mackintosh, and black lace-up boots. He is flat and splay-footed and walks very badly.

Elliott claimed to have served in the navy and to have saved the life of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe when the Camperdown rammed the Victoria, and he also has stated that he fought in the Jutland Battle. He has lived at Leighton Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, for the past twelve months, and was well known in the neighbourhood.

THE SLAUGHTER OF CALVES.

Restriction Order by Food Controller.

Press Bureau, Saturday Night.

The excessive slaughter of calves has of late given great concern both to the Food Controller and the Board of Agriculture, since such slaughter must seriously affect the future meat supplies of the country.

Accordingly the Live Stock (Restriction of Slaughter) Order made yesterday by the Food Controller forbids the slaughter of heifer calves after the 1st January, 1918, and of male calves after the 15th March, 1918. Male calves of the Ayrshire breed are excepted from the provisions of the Order, and calves, the slaughter of which is permitted by the Food Controller.

Permission will be granted in suitable cases by a person authorised by the Food Controller, and in such cases the calf will be branded with a mark prescribed by the Order.

After the 1st January, 1918, no home-killed veal can be sold for human consumption except for the purpose of making, or as an ingredient in, sausages, meat pies, or similar articles. The veal so used will, of course, be obtained only from calves allowed by the Food Controller to be slaughtered

"LIGHTLESS NIGHTS" IN THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, Saturday.

The Fuel Administrator has decreed that lightless nights are to be observed once a week, not only for the purpose of saving coal, but also to provide startling and visual evidence that the United States is engaged in the conduct of the greatest of world wars.

The decree bars everywhere illuminated signs and advertisements, searchlights, the external illumination of any building for purposes of ornamentation, and also prohibits lights in the interior of stores, offices, and other business places when these are not open for business.

Householders are requested to burn the fewest number of lights possible.

"THE FIRST SEVEN DIVISIONS."

KING AND QUEEN ATTEND

STIRRING COMMEMORATION SERVICE.

(By Our Own Reporter.)

London, Saturday Night.

A choral commemoration of the First Seven Divisions—the men of the British Army who stemmed the onrush of the Germans in the summer and autumn of 1914—was held to-day at the Albert Hall.

Practically every regiment which took part in the fighting from August to October, 1914, was represented, the regimental deputations each consisting of two officers and four non-commissioned officers and men.

The Glengarry Conspicuous.

The Glengarry bonnets of the Scottish regiments were everywhere to be seen as the survivors of "the contemptible little army" who had broken the might of Von Kluck passed on their way to the Albert Hall. Never in its history has this great gathering-place seen a more impressive scene. The pipers of the Scots Guards, who led at Mons, marched down the arena of the hall playing the stirring melody of "Blue Bonnets over the Border" amidst the wildest enthusiasm.

The King and Queen were present, and in the galleries above were the relations of those who had fallen and those who are still adding to the glory of the race on the battlefields of France.

Heart-Stirring Lament.

The chief feature of the ceremony was the rendering of Mr Arthur Somerville's setting of Miss Beatrix Brice's poem dedicated to the Men of the First Seven Divisions.

Amid a deep hush, Mr Balfour read with deep feeling the passage from the apacrypha in which are the words:—"Their seed shall remain for ever and ever, and their glory shall not be blotted out. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their names liveth for evermore."

Then followed the lament by the pipers, and, as the notes of the pipes rose and fell, the sob in the Celtic music which has stirred the hearts of all who have ever heard it since the birth of time, brought the feeling of dool mingled with rejoicing for the work that the great dead had accomplished which only the Highland pibroch can bring.

Lord Derby read the order of battle of the First Seven Divisions.

With bowed heads all present sang the hymn, "For all the Saints Who from Their Labours Rest," and clear on the air sounded the notes of the reveille

NO MILK TO BE USED IN CHOCOLATE.

Food Controller's New Order

Press Bureau, Saturday Night.

The Food Controller has issued an Order forbidding the use in the manufacture of chocolate of milk, condensed milk, milk powder, dried milk, or any other milk preparation after December 17.

The terms of the Order provide that any milk powder, condensed milk, dried milk, or any other milk preparation which the manufacturer has in stock at the close of business on December 15, or which is in actual transit to him on that date, may be used, and that any liquid milk delivered to him before December 24 may also be used.

The Food Controller may cancel, determine, or modify as he thinks fit any contract the manufacturer has entered into for the purchase of milk.

£2000 DAMAGES AT GRANGEMOUTH FARM FIRE

Four Store Cattle Burned.

Grangemouth, Saturday Night.

A destructive fire occurred to-night at the farm of Fowldubs, about 13 miles south of Grangemouth, tenanted by Mr William Eadie, jun., when damage was done to the extent of not less than £2000.

The outbreak occurred in a barn about eight o'clock, and the horses and cattle were with difficulty removed to a place of safety, with the exception of four store cattle, which were burned. The barn in which the fire originated was completely destroyed, together with its valuable stock of corn, beans, and straw, and a considerable portion of the steading was gutted. The stackyard adjoining, which is fully stocked, was saved through the efforts of Grangemouth Fire Brigade.

STERILISED MEAT SOLD AT ABERDEEN.

Success of New Departure.

Aberdeen, Saturday.

Aberdeen leads the way in the Northern part of Scotland in an effort to bring meat—potted meat, pressed beef, meat paste, and fat dripping—within the power of the working classes to secure the necessaries of life at a comparatively cheap rate.

This morning a sterilised meat depot was opened at 413 George Street, the joint venture of the Corporation as represented by the Public Health Committee of the own Council, and the Fleshers' Incorporation. The latter body is to carry on the sterilisation under the direction of the Incorporation in a specially-equipped department at the slaughter-house.

Throughout the day, from nine o'clock in the morning, business was very brisk, and in the afternoon and evening there was a steady stream of customers. The prices charged were:—Pressed meat, 8d per pound; potted meat, 3d per pound; dripping, 10d per pound; and meat paste, 8d.

WIMBLEDON MYSTERY.

DRAMATIC SCENES AT INQUEST.

SUSPECT'S LANDLADY IN WITNESS-BOX.

Wimbledon, Saturday.

A dramatic story describing how the body of Captain Tighe, of Winkfield Lodge, Wimbledon Common, who was brutally murdered, was discovered lying in a pool of blood was narrated at the resumed inquest at Wimbledon to-day.

The police have arrested Victor de Stamir, aged 26, a corporal in the British Army, but of French nationality, though he has lived in this country many years. He has been remanded on the charge of murdering Captain Tighe.

Eva Mary Parfitt, Winkfield Lodge, Wimbledon, said she had been in the employment of Captain and Mrs Tighe for the last six months. The only person who had an interview with Captain Tighe, apart from the personal friends, was a representative of a firm of coal merchants. Witness last saw Captain Tighe at 5 p.m. on the day before the tragedy. Mrs Tighe and witness went to town and returned about 10.30 p.m. They found nothing unusual. About half-past seven on the morning of the 13th witness went to call Captain Tighe.

Lying in Pool of Blood.

She knocked at the door, but received no answer. She then entered and drew up the blinds.

The Coroner—When you entered the room did you hear any noise?

Witness—Yes, sir. I heard a groan like someone breathing very heavily.

The Coroner—Were you disturbed?

Witness—Yes, I was. I had never heard anything like it before.

The Coroner—When you pulled up the blinds what did you see?

Witness—I saw him lying on the floor in a pool of blood.

At this stage a poker was produced, which witness said belonged to the dining-room fireplace. It was not bent when she last saw it. She also knew of a mackintosh belonging to the house boy, and the one produced was similar to that owned by him. She identified two watches as being similar to those owned by Captain Tighe which had been missing since November 13.

The next witness was Mrs Tighe, the widow of the deceased. She said she and her late husband went to Winkfield Lodge on November 10. The husband was invalided from the army, and suffered from asthma. He seemed to enjoy his new surroundings. He used to get up during the night to ease his breathing. He used to eat bread and drink water. He told her he used to get up between half-past three and four o'clock. That was his usual practice.

When witness returned from London on the night before the tragedy she found her husband in the billiard-room. She stayed for twenty minutes, and left him about eleven o'clock. He was not disturbed during the night. At 7.30 on the following morning she was called to her husband's bedroom by the maid, and found him lying on the floor in an unconscious condition. She identified both watches produced as belonging to Captain Tighe.

"A Decent Fellow."

Rose M'Kinnon, of 65 Totterdown Street, Tooting, said that about the middle of October a soldier came to her house and said his name was Gray. He said he had something to do with the military police at Whitehall, and was connected with the C.I.D. of the army, and gave that as his reason for coming in at irregular hours. She used to wait up until he came in, usually between 1 and 1.30 a.m. In the first week in November she lent him a latchkey, and he went in and out as he thought fit. He seemed to have plenty of money.

At this point De Stamier was brought forward, and identified by the witness as the man who gave his name as Gray.

"He was a decent fellow," said witness, who added that on the morning of the last air raid he did not get home until four o'clock. On one occasion he showed her a £5 note, which he said was a reward in connection with his duties. He also said his father was a wealthy Australian.

The inquest was adjourned for a fortnight.

FREE GIFT SALE AT STIRLING.

Pedigree Ram Realises £338.

Stirling, Saturday Night.

To-day a free gift auction sale for the district took place in Stirling in aid of Red Cross and other patriotic funds.

There was a great variety of gifts, including many cattle, sheep, &c.

The sale was largely attended by the public.

The Duchess of Montrose performed the opening ceremony, and commended the objects for which the sale had been promoted, and made an appeal on behalf of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Prisoners of War Fund.

The Duchess afterwards auctioned a couple of heifers, which were purchased at 100 guineas.

A snowball auction for a pedigree ram realised £338, and a similar auction of a pig brought £133, while a lamb realised £57.

Subscriptions in money amounted to £1500.

It is expected that the total proceeds of the sale will be well over £4000.

PICTURE OF WOMAN TATTOOED ON BODY.

Newton-Stewart, Saturday Night.

This morning the body of a man was found on the shore near High Auchneil, Leswalt. The remains were much decomposed, death evidently having taken place over a month ago. The only clothing remaining was a pair of dongaree trousers and part of a cotton shirt. On the upper part of the right arm there is tattooed the head of a woman.

TWO HOUSES WRECKED

BY TERRIFIC GAS EXPLOSION.

ALARMING AFFAIR AT KIRKCALDY.

Kirkcaldy, Saturday Night.

Two loud explosions in quick succession caused great alarm in Kirkcaldy to-night. People rushed in alarm from their houses to the street, and their first looks were towards the sky. It was quickly found, however, that a destructive explosion of gas had taken place in St Clair Street.

A very strong smell of gas had been felt in the house of Mrs Manson, 207 St Clair Street, and two plumbers were sent for. While they were looking for the supposed leakage a tremendous explosion took place underneath the floor of the house, which is on the street level. The fire travelled underneath the adjoining close, and a second explosion took place in the house next door.

Both houses were completely wrecked, the furniture being thrown about and smashed and the window frames blown to the other side of the street. The two plumbers sustained injuries and suffered from shock, but were able to return to their homes.

No explanation can yet be given as to the cause of the explosion, but it is evident that a large quantity of gas from the main pipe had lodged underneath the flooring of the houses.

GLASGOW WOMAN'S STRANGE CONDUCT.

CUT SON-IN-LAW'S CLOTHES TO RIBBONS.

Kilsyth, Saturday.

The Croy district police have had an extraordinary case to deal with, in which much wanton destruction was done in the house of Andrew Smith, colliery overman, Drumgiven Cottages.

It appears that his mother-in-law, Janet Strang or Kincaid, a widow, who resides in Duke Street, Glasgow, had come out to visit her daughter, who, however, had been removed to the asylum. Getting the key from a neighbour, Mrs Kincaid entered the house, Smith being away at his work. On returning home, he found a grey tweed suit (valued at £4 15s) had been cut into ribbons; a rainproof coat (valued at £2 15s) had been treated in the same way; two blue serge jackets and vests (valued at £4) had been completely destroyed; the tyres and tubes of his cycle had been slashed across, and the cycle lamp squashed up. A timepiece had also been removed.

When accused appeared before Sheriff M'Diarmid, the police stated that she had admitted the damage, seemed quite pleased, and thought she had not done enough. The Sheriff said it was a most deplorable case. For accused, it was stated the damage was done when she was hysterical.

The Sheriff continued the case for sentence for six months to give the woman a chance to pay for the damage.

FISH THEFTS IN ABERDEEN

Twenty-Five Women Fined.

Aberdeen, Saturday.

As a result of fish thefts, which have been going on in Aberdeen establishments for some time, twenty-five women in the employment of firms appeared before Bailie Hutchison in Aberdeen Police-Court to-day charged with having stolen fish from their employers. All pleaded guilty.

The Fiscal, Mr Gavin Sinclair, stated that the practice had been going on for a considerable time. Some of the women were known to have carried bags under their clothing into which the stolen fish were dropped.

All the accused were fined 20s, with the alternative of ten days' imprisonment.

LABOUR REPRESENTATION AFTER THE WAR.

Leith, Saturday Night.

At a conference of Trade Union delegates held at Leith this afternoon, a resolution was passed urging on working-class organisations the importance of organising their forces to strengthen the policy of direct Parliamentary representation.

Mr J. N. Bell, prospective Labour candidate for Leith, who spoke in support of the resolution, ridiculed the suggestion that there were to be no political parties in the future. He went on to explain the industrial unrest by saying that six or seven months after war commenced, Trade Unionists, who wanted to claim an advance of wages, were easily dissuaded from pressing their claims owing to the prevailing conditions. But, when they saw how the opportunities of the times were seized by those above them, they were not amenable to argument; and lost all their trust in the promises of people who were in positions of industrial or political power.

JAMESTOWN MILITARY MEDALLIST HONOURED.

Gunner John M'Intosh, R.F.A., who was presented with gifts by the inhabitants of Jamestown last night, in recognition of his being the first local soldier to win the Military Medal.

GIRL FASCINATED BY MARRIED SOLDIER.

DRAWS WIFE'S SEPARATION ALLOWANCE.

Glasgow, Saturday.

Sensational statements were made in Glasgow Sheriff Court to-day regarding a soldier's relations with two women.

A young woman named Matilda Teise admitted having defauded the War Office of £3 17s 5d, being separation allowance to which she was not entitled.

Mr Giles, Depute-Fiscal, said that the accused had recently cohabited with a soldier whom she knew to be a married man. This soldier deserted from the army, and, after remaining with the accused for a time, he rejoined. On hearing of this his wife applied for separation allowance, but it was then found that the separation allowance was being paid to the accused, who signed the receipts as if she were the soldier's real wife.

An agent, on behalf of the accused, said this girl had acted entirely under the influence of this man. Although she drew the money the soldier was living with her at the time, and he spent it. The accused was only twenty-one years of age.

Mr Giles said the soldier's wife had to get assistance from the Parish Council.

The mother of the accused, carrying a child in her arms, asked permission to make a statement. She said that the child was her daughter's, and the soldier was the father of it. The soldier obtained such a hold over the girl that her daughter left her house and went to stay with him. She was not to blame.

Sheriff Harvey remarked that these frauds on the Government were much too common, and passed sentence of sixty days' imprisonment.

WIDOW'S SIXTH SON TO SERVE.

A Hard Case at Dunoon.

Dunoon, Saturday.

A rather unusual appeal was heard at the Argyll Appeal Court held at Dunoon yesterday—Sheriff-Principal A. L. M'Clure presiding—when a Dunoon dairyman, who was working a business on behalf of his widowed mother, appealed against the decision of the Dunoon Tribunal in sending him to serve in the forces on January 1.

The man, who is twenty-eight, has received numerous temporary exemptions on the ground of exceptional domestic circumstances, and his agent pleaded that the man was all that was left to keep the house together, this consisting of an old mother, a cripple brother, and a sister stated to be unable to do anything. Five brothers had been serving during the war, and all the mother received from the country was the meagre sum of 16s weekly, so that it was to the son that she had to depend on keeping the family together.

The Sheriff said that according to the regulations in force by the War Office they could not consider the fact that five brothers were at present serving, although it was a hard case. They must adhere to the decision of the Local Tribunal.

PRISONER FOR AN HOUR.

Hamilton Gunner Escapes from the Huns.

Hamilton, Saturday.

It is evident from a letter received in Hamilton this morning that quite a number of prisoners captured by the Germans on the Cambrai front succeeded in a comparatively short time in rejoining their own units.

Writing to his wife, who resides in Selkirk Street, Hamilton, Gunner Charles Bent says:—"Along with several more chaps in our lot I was taken prisoner by the Germans. We made good our escape again, after being in their hands for an hour.

"It was a costly hour for us, for, like the others, I have lost all my bits of things: but after we got back we gave Fritz an awful hiding. Fritz must have lost a fearful lot of men."

HUGE PRICES FOR AYRSHIRE PEDIGREE STOCK.

430 Guineas for Bull Calf.

Newton Mearns, Saturday.

Sensational prices were obtained on Saturday for Ayrshire bull calves at a sale held by Messrs T. & A. Clement, Netherton Farm, Newton Mearns.

Two years ago when Mr Logan of Bargenoch, Ayrshire, received 380 guineas for a bull calf the price was considered an extraordinary one, but to-day Mr James Howie, Hillhouse, Kilmarnock, one of the leading breeders of Ayrshire cattle, gave 430 guineas for a bull calf named Netherton Bloodstone, which is only ten months old.

Mr James Wallace, Chapelhouse, gave 300 guineas for Netherton Sir Bruno, a yearling. Other big prices were 255, 200, 192, and 100 guineas. Altogether 21 pedigree calves made a total of £2428 13s, or an average of £115 13s each.

This extraordinary increase in the price of Ayrshire cattle is not due to any inflation created by war circumstances, but is largely accounted for by the enterprise of breeders, and in the judicious making of the animals which has led to a great improvement in the quality of the stock.

VALE CAGE BIRD CLUB.

Alexandria, Saturday Night.

To-day the annual show, under the auspices of the Vale of Leven Cage Bird Club, was held in the Co-Operative Hall, Alexandria. There were 300 entries.

The principal awards were:—Watkinson Cup for Best Yorkshire—A. H. Maclean, Bonhill. Nicol Cup for Best Border—W. B. Gillies, Alexandria. Gilmour Cup for Best Crest—Mr A. Monachan, Dumbarton. Donaldson Cup for Best Scottish Fancy—Mr John Angus, Bonhill.

TAKES GIRL TO VISIT HIS WIFE.

EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF DECEPTION.

SOLDIER'S WIFE GETS DIVORCE.

Edinburgh, Saturday.

An extraordinary story was related to Lord Anderson to-day in the course of an action for divorce at the instance of Georgina Douglas or Douglas, 13 Hartfield Street, Tain, against Alexander George M'Avany Douglas, otherwise Andrew Inglis, a private in the army, and Nellie Grattan, formerly residing at 28 Sherborne Lane, Lime Regis, Dorsetshire, and now at Tain.

Arrested as Deserter.

Pursuer (21) stated that she was married in June, 1915, by warrant of the Sheriff. One child had been born of the marriage. The parties did not take up house, but resided with her parents until defender, who was a soldier, went away with his regiment. The defender got occasional leave to see her, and had ten days' leave in June, 1917. He came and stayed on that occasion, and again visited her in August. He then deserted from his regiment, but had since been arrested, and was again back in France. Pursuer had ascertained since that his real name was Inglis, and that he belonged to Motherwell.

When he came in June he was accompanied by a young woman. They came from Lyme Regis. Defender had been in hospital there. He said the girl was his sister, and she later learned that he spoke of the pursuer to the girl as his sister. Pursuer did not find out anything wrong about the matter until he had left. The girl remained, and later told pursuer that she was engaged to defender, and that they had lived together.

Said Wife Was His Sister.

Nellie Grattan, a quiet, nice-looking girl, who gave her age as twenty, stated that in June last she was introduced to a private, who gave her the name of George Taylor. She and he were photographed together just about the time of the introduction. She got to know him at the house of a friend. He made an appointment with her for the following night. He was in a hospital at Lyme Regis. She met him as arranged. He proposed marriage to her, and she accepted. On the strength of that misconduct took place. He told her he was a single man. He asked her to come to Tain to visit a married sister, and the married sister whom she was introduced to was his wife. Defender got a passport for her in the name of Miss Douglas, and she travelled with him to Scotland as Miss Douglas. On the journey from Lyme Regis they stayed all night in lodgings somewhere on the journey, but she did not remember the name of the place. The next day they stayed in Edinburgh, again cohabiting as man and wife on the strength of his being engaged to her.

Passes as His Sister.

Witness at that time passed herself off as defender's sister, and was received by Mrs Douglas as a sister. After defender left the parties discovered that something was wrong, and made inquiries, with the result that this action had been brought.

Lord Anderson granted decree.

ROTHESAY OFFICER'S EXPLOIT.

Captain Archibald Reid, R.F.A., when seriously wounded by a shell splinter, rode over two miles to order up fresh supplies of ammunition for his battery, holding the horse's reins with his teeth. A reference to Captain Reid's exploit appears on page 9.

SOLDIER REFUSED DIVORCE.

Lord Ormidale has refused to grand decree of divorce in the action heard last week at the instance of John Tait Christie, private in the army, against Kathleen Johnston or Christie, Ivy Cottage, Castle Kerrock, Carlisle, and against John Stafford, now in the army, co-defender.

Pursuer stated that two out of the six children born to defender were not his. When they lived in Methil the room of the house was let to boarders, among whom was the co-defender. The pursuer enlisted in September, 1914, and he alleged that the defender and the co-defender became intimate. The defender denied misconduct, and said that the pursuer was the father of the children.

His Lordship held that the onus of bringing distinct proof of guilt had not been discharged by the pursuer.

ARE YOUR SUGAR FORMS IN?

EXTENSION FOR THOSE NOT REGISTERED.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

The manager of a large grocery establishment in the city told a "Sunday Post" representative to-night that the sugar returns from households had come in well during the past couple of days, and that the scheme seemed to be working all right. All the forms had not been returned, but that was hardly to be expected, as some were only posted to customers yesterday.

Officially this was the last day for the retailers receiving back the forms, but if the forms sent out late are returned by Monday or Tuesday they will be in time.

"The sooner the better," he added. "The idea is that the registration should be completed as soon as possible, and this incoming week should see the thing finished."

Official intimation is made to-night that those persons not registered in a household card who are applying through the Post Office, and have not yet obtained a form of application, can still obtain one at Post Offices.

MAYBOLE MAN'S RECORD IN LEG-BREAKING.

Extraordinary Tribunal Case.

Ayr, Saturday.

A case presenting very unusual features came before the Ayrshire Appeal Tribunal—Sheriff Lyon Mackenzie presiding. The Maybole Tribunal had refused exemption to a wolting operator in a local boot factory.

The statement by the man's agent disclosed a record in leg-breaking. Each leg, he said, had been broken three times, and on none of these occasions had there been an accident in the ordinary sense, the breaking being caused simply through weakness of the bones. The last break occurred two years ago. He was then just walking on the street, and a small stone he trod upon turned over, with the result that his thigh was broken. His bones were brittle, and where the ordinary person ran no risk this man went in daily risk of another fracture.

He had been twice rejected as unfit, and on a third occasion, at Ayr Barracks, he had been passed C2. It was a case of inherent disability, and he had to wear boots with rubber studs and go about continually with a stick.

The case was continued till 11th January to allow of a further medical examination.

SERGT.-MAJOR ACCIDENTALLY SHOT

At Tranent Volunteer Rifle Range.

Tranent, Saturday.

An unfortunate accident has occurred at the Territorial Drill Hall, Tranent.

While a shooting match was proceeding between teams representing the married and single men belonging to the local Volunteer detachment at the miniature rifle range, one of the marksmen let his rifle go off too quickly, and the shot embedded itself in the leg of Sergeant-Major Peden. He was immediately conveyed to his home, and later to hospital, where the doctor succeeded in removing the bullet.

The sergeant-major had a fortunate escape with his life.

DEATH OF JOHNSTONE R.C. CLERGYMAN.

Johnstone, Saturday Night.

The death took place in a Glasgow nursing home this morning of the Rev. Father Nyhan, parish priest of Johnstone.

Father Nyhan, who came to the Johnstone charge from the Coatbridge district in July, 1903, in succession to the Rev. Dean Davidson, now of St Mary's, Paisley, took a keen interest in the educational affairs of the burgh, and was a member of the School Board for several years. Through his labours a large and commodious school was built in Johnstone.

Father Nyhan was fifty-two years of age, and a native of the South-West of Ireland.

CRANE-BOY SERIOUSLY INJURED.

Cambuslang, Saturday Night.

At the new section of Messrs David Colville & Sons', Clydebridge Steelworks, Cambuslang, this morning, Neil Campbell, a crane-boy, residing at 24 Glasgow Road, Cambuslang, fell from the cogging mill floor into a hole over twenty feet in depth. No one witnessed the accident, but the attention of a workman was attracted by moans, and, descending the hole, he discovered Campbell lying in an unconscious condition. He had sustained serious injuries to the head and a fractured arm. Campbell was conveyed to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary without having regained consciousness, and to-night was reported to be in a critical state.

LANARKSHIRE QUOITER'S SUDDEN DEATH.

Hamilton, Saturday.

The death is announced this morning of Mr Alexander Wyper, Portland Place, Hamilton. He was on duty at his post in Hamilton Gas Works, and died there late last night. Deceased was known to quoiting enthusiasts all over Lanarkshire and the West of Scotland. Three of his sons are in the army, and one is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Brigadier-General His Grace the Duke of Atholl skipped a rink at Cupar curling pond yesterday afternoon against Mr Mackie, blacksmith, and the game ended all square—10 each. Mr J. L. Anderson, Town Clerk, accounted for Mr H. P. Wallace by 20 shots to 9.

LATEST NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

FROM ALL PARTS OF SCOTLAND.

BY WIRE AND 'PHONE.

Whales are reported as numerous in the Firth of Forth.

Irvine licensed premises will be closed on the first two days of the new year.

A sale of work by Bonhill Parish Church Women's Guild, held yesterday, realised a sum of £87 1s 4d.

At the Irvine and District Cage Bird Society show yesterday, the open Border fancy medal was won by J. Gartland, Irvine.

During the week ending 15th December a sum of £215 was realised by the sale of war comforts tickets on the Glasgow Tramways.

Lieut. Leslie Reid, Dragoon Guards, third son of the late Dr Reid, Oakley, Kirkcudbright, has been killed in action. Deceased was twenty years of age.

Mr Alfred Calder, Dumbarton, has been appointed chairman of the Dumbarton Parish Council, while Mr Henry Logan has been elected vice-chairman.

A young Greenock soldier, Sergeant M'Nab, A. and S.H., whose father is a private in the same regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry.

Dr James B. M'Ewan, an Helensburgh doctor who has been on service in France for a year, has had to resign his commission in the R.A.M.C. owing to continued ill-health.

Rev. James Kirk, M.C., parish minister of Dunbar, who has been acting as a military chaplain at the front for two years, is returning to France for the duration of the war.

Corporal Waugh, Baillieston, who is home on furlough, has been presented with eighteen war certificates from the inhabitants of Baillieston in honour of his winning the Military Medal.

Corporal Hugh Crossan, Hussars, son of Mr and Mrs Crossan, Union Street, Kirkcudbright, has been awarded the Military Medal. The corporal, who has been slightly wounded, took part in the retreat from Mons.

Fully five hundred entries were on view at the annual show of the Aberdeen Amalgamated Cage Bird Society yesterday. The silver cup for the best young bird was won by Alexander Ross, 24 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen.

The farmers of Clackmannanshire have formed a branch of the Scottish Farmers' Union, with Mr Kinross, Hillend, president; Mr Robert M'Gee, Blackfaulds, vice-president; and Mr Alex. L. Roxburgh, solicitor, Alloa, secretary.

As the result of a sale of work and flag day, held under the auspices of Bathgate Women's V.A.D., £142 was secured, and the money has been devoted to naming and equipping three beds in Ralston Red Cross Hospital, Paisley.

Miss Rebecca Scobie, who left her home at William Street, Johnstone, on Wednesday, 7th November, and mysteriously disappeared from her friends, has been found in Glasgow, where she had secured employment as a domestic servant.

Peterhead Town Council have appointed Mr W. H. Leask Provost for the seventh time in succession. Provost Leask has been a member of the Town Council for over thirty years, and has entered on the nineteenth year of his Provostship.

At Glasgow Northern Police Court yesterday, two men and two women were remitted to the Sheriff on a charge of stealing £55 from a sailor. The sailor described one of the women as being red-haired and having a gold-filled tooth, and this led to the arrests.

The members of Bathgate United Irish League have protested against Mr J. W. Pratt, M.P., West Lothian, voting in opposition to Mr Adamson's proposal to abolish the £10 a year unfurnished room qualification for a lodger vote in Local Government elections.

Sergt. Dan. Gray, of the Seaforths, a well-known footballer who has won distinction in the war, has just arrived home at Inverness, and received a welcome from his comrades. Early in the war he won the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and recently was awarded a bar to the Medal.

CARING FOR DUNDEE'S BABIES.

Dundee, Saturday Night.

Under the auspices of the Dundee Child Welfare and Maternity Department, a social meeting took place to-day in the Y.M.C.A. Hall. The meeting, which had been organised by Dr Margaret Scott-Dickson and the Health Visitors of the Welfare Department, was attended by about 400 mothers with their babies, and all seemed to heartily enjoy the proceedings.

Bailie Fraser stated that no fewer than 1002 babies had been under the care of the five clinics in Dundee during the past six months, and that 2334 visits had been paid. Dr Templeman also spoke and congratulated Dr Dickson and her staff on the splendid results of their work during the past year.

LARKHALL SWIMMER FALLS IN ACTION.

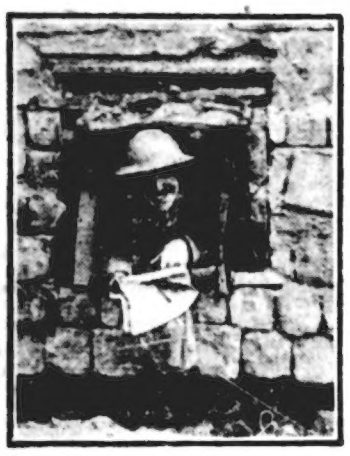
When the Royal Edward was torpedoed in the Ægean Sea many lives were saved by Pte. Robert Moon, K.O.S.B., an expert swimmer. The gallant soldier has just been killed by a stray shell on the Western front. He hails from Larkhall.

A Stirring Narrative of the Fighting Around Ypres.

SECOND-LIEUT. BILLIE IMPETT & HIS ORDERLY

THEIR EXPLOITS WITH "THE STICKERS" ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

By CAPTAIN EUSTACE AINSWORTH.



HAPPY IN HIS DUG-OUT (Official Photo).

This week the author tells of Billie Impett's daring exploit in a crater in which he captured a German officer, and also recounts a most unusual story of "The Trench Girl"—an inspiration which helped Billie along during many trying times.

TO live on the edge of a volcano is generally admitted by the world to have its disadvantages from a peaceful life point of view, but to live directly over the top of one is far worse. Yet this is what the Hun had knowingly been doing for more than a month, and as people do not do things like that if they can help it there must have been reasons. There were. You see they had not deliberately located their front line trench over three deep and heavily-charged mines.

The British, whom God strafe, had in most unsportsmanlike manner put the mines there long after they knew quite well that the peace-loving German had already settled on that spot for ever, and it was perhaps because the presence of the mines cast a suspicion upon that security of tenure which must necessarily accompany the order of Divine Right that the peace-loving Hun was so particularly indignant. Anyway, he was. For five months, increasing in anxiety, he had tried by every means of counter-mine to intercept the insidious business, and had failed.

Then he tried raiding the British front line trench to get to the galleries and destroy them from the western end. That failed also for two reasons—first, because he either couldn't get into that trench, or never came back if he did; and, secondly, because, as a matter of fact, the mouths of the tunnels were not in the front line trench at all. But it is doubtful whether the victims ever knew that fact before the mines were sprung, and no German within a hundred yards of the trouble ever knew anything else afterwards.

THE SPRINGING OF THE MINE.

That is the horrible part of deep mining. There are no prisoners and comparatively few wounded. Some one presses the handle of an exploder, and a small portion of the adjacent landscape rises in the air, appears to hesitate, as though uncertain whether to stay there or not, and then, spreading out like the falling waters of a fountain, comes gradually back to earth. Vast clouds of dust drift slowly to leeward, while indescribable morsels of various sorts, mingled with stones and broken rifles, rain down over both lines long after you think that it is all over. It takes about five months to make and charge a really first-class mine under war conditions, no time that you can measure to fire it, and perhaps half a minute for the highest and furthest flung fragment of something to get back to rest. Consequently it will be admitted that to live over three really good mines for any length of time is disturbing, and the Hun was vexed. Therefore, in desperation, he flung himself on the British line, and for one glorious week the Brigades of Billie's Division saw red. Then the Hun drew back bleeding from a game at which he had never really succeeded, and sat down again on the volcano.

Two weeks later the Major called the subalterns together and broke the news. "To-night, gentlemen," the Major said, "the mines will be sprung, and the craters occupied by our infantry. Mr Kennedy, Mr Deane, and Mr Impett will reconnoitre the craters, and Captain Hoyle will give you instructions later."

Captain Hoyle did, of which these instructions to Billie are a sample.

"When the mines are sprung, Impett, the Hun will immediately barrage the ground between the craters and our first line. You will have a corporal and two sappers ready, and when the mines go up get across to the crater just as fast as you can run. The faster you go, the more chance you have of getting there alive, for the Hun will barrage the instant the mines go up. Once there you will look to see how it can be held and by how many troops, what material and tools are required, and what working party. When you have this information you will send it back to the front line. You take No. 1 Crater, Kennedy No. 2, and Deane No. 3. I shall see them all in turn. You will wait in the crater till the infantry come, and will give them advice and assistance and return when they are firmly established."

Billie said, "Yes, sir," and wondered how many other men of twenty-two were handed similar jobs. Then he picked his three men, explained it all to them, and went somewhat nervously into the front line.

THE CRATER.

The general idea was that the British guns would open on the Hun trenches from 1 to 2 a.m., and that as soon as they ceased fire, which they would do simultaneously, the mines were to be fired. At 1.30 Billie, a corporal, and two sappers sat and smoked on the fire step of the front line in what seemed a terrible bombardment, and at the back of Billie's mind ran that horrid idea of getting across some hundred and fifty yards of open land under a barrage. Then the little streak of ingenuity that is so often the saving grace of the young when in difficulty came to his rescue, and he threw away his cigarette.

"Come on," he said. "Let's get the other side of our wire, anyway," and the four went over the parapet through the ordinary chances of No Man's Land, and settled down in two shell-holes about fifty yards in front of the line.

Then the British guns stopped so suddenly that Billie thought he must have gone deaf, the whole world gave a shudder, one of his men from the next shell-hole fell on him apparently out of the sky, half-drowning Billie in his own little pond, and the four were away at top speed, gasping through dust and falling earth, for the crater, and as they ran the ground between them and the British line was ploughed under, churned to pudding, and blown away in lumps by every kind of shell known to man. Billie expected to fall into the crater, instead of which, of course, he fell full length on the outside of the "lip" thrown up into a bank ten feet high, and lay still for breath.

"There, boys!" he panted. Three voices said, "Yes, sir," and Billie said, "Half a minute, and we will go over into the hole." Then they scrambled up a rampart of mud, earth, and stones that had not smelt the fresh air of heaven for untold centuries, topped the crest, and rolled down the other side.

I suppose if Billie lives to be a hundred years old he will never forget that crater. Everyone nowadays knows mine craters, but few have been in one while it was still "alive," as this was. Forty yards across to the other side the half light of a not very dark night and the flashes of bursting shells showed the lip ragged against the sky, and as he looked quickly round the lip began to rise and eclipsed a star. Billie waked up from a five seconds' hesitation, and shouted to his men.

"Look out, boys, we are going down!"

Just as if you scoop a hole in a barrel of soft sugar the side of that hole will be "alive"—that is, continue to run down to the bottom of the crater for some time, or, as the earth in the Culebra Cut refuses to stay still until it has found its true angle of repose, so the sides of that colossal hole, new dug in Flanders mud and water, went sliding noiselessly down under the vibration of five hundred guns to swell the lake of liquid mud now forming twenty yards below.

THE HUMAN CHAIN.

Someone took Billie's upper hand and held him.

"All right, sir. We're anchored on a tree root."

"How many of you?"

"Two, sir."

"Who's missing?"

"Corporal Barker, sir."

"Barker," Billie yelled, "where are you?"

"Here, sir, just below you."

Billie could see him a couple of yards further down, and tried desperately to shake off the hand that held him above. It was no use. Sapper Bellis had his fingers locked round Billie's wrist, and would not let go. Then Billie, seeing that force was no good, used his brains.

"Space out, boys," he said. "Use your rifles."

There was a few seconds' delay, and Billie found himself not free, but free to move down the slope, with Bellis' powerful hand still clasped tightly round his wrist. In half a minute he had Corporal Barker by the hand, and in the sliding mud the chain of four men drew out till they were laid at length on its surface, and Billie prayed that the roots of that blessed tree would hold. The corporal then climbed over Billie, and went up to the tree. Billie climbed over Bellis, and presently all four lay under the lip.

Then some loose earth came down from above, and Captain Hoyle slid into the party.

"Lucky shot," he said. "All here? Good, what's it like?"

Billie told him just what it was like, and Hoyle, who was not holding on to anything at the time, pulled himself back by Corporal Barker's boot and agreed.

After thinking for a minute, he said, "Yes, I fancy so," to himself, and to Corpl. Barker, Sapper Bellis, and Sapper Chester he added—"You three go back to the line and tell them I say this place can't be occupied to-night, and tell them why. Mr Impett and I will wait here. Take different routes, and see that at least three men come back with instructions. Here are three notes to any officers in the front line."

Then, when the men had left—"How did you get here so soon, Impett?" he asked. "I came over when the mines went up, and I did not lose any time either. That barrage is pretty fierce."

Billie explained, and was told that it was ingenious, but that he ought to have got permission first, because orders might have come for him at the last moment. In the intimacy of danger Billie and Captain Hoyle talked together in that sliding mud, one arm round the tree root, till Billie thought that the crater was one of the nicest places he had so far visited.

THE GERMAN'S MISTAKE.

Then something happened that neither of them was ever to forget. The Germans left their support line, faced the British barrage, line behind line, stopped, stumbled, died or went on as each man's luck decided, till some three hundred reached the crater, topped the lip on three sides of the hole and dropped with shovels and rifles into the sliding mud.

For perhaps a minute they seemed safe, shovels were set to work, orders given clearly, and method made evident, and then an indefinable shudder ran round. Work hung fire, and a German non-commissioned officer shouted in a tone not usual under the circumstances. Some one swore aloud. After that there was silence, and every man tried desperately to save himself. Then the inevitable happened. The lower man grasped the man above, and in the panic that followed bayonets were used, rifles discharged, discipline disappeared for ever as a thing no longer useful, and Billie gasped. It was horrible. To make matters even worse, a supporting wave of Germans reached the crater and climbed the lip, and instead of warning them as Hoyle and Billie naturally expected, the first lot called for help, so that in another minute the two Englishmen shut their eyes and ears in sheer horror.

Then a rush of mud came down on them from above, and Hoyle, swinging round on his side, said, "Who's that?" over his revolver.

A German officer blundered down the side and paused as he saw the two Englishmen. Hoyle took his hand and guided it to the tree root in the dark, still covering him.

"Hold on to that," he said. "It is the only thing in the crater that is not going down to the bottom, and be good enough to keep your other hand off your revolver. Take his gun, Impett. Now then," he went on, "why on earth don't you fellows look before you leap?"

"We do not criticise orders, we obey them."

"Same here, but we all like to know what is on the other side of the fence, because that's where we are going to land." A new burst of cries and oaths came up from the struggling mass below as the second wave of men slid gradually into the rising mud.

"That is the fortune of war," the German officer said indifferently, waving his hand. "These men were born to give their lives to the Fatherland."

"Well," Hoyle grunted, "you can call it what you like. To me it looks like d—— carelessness, but I suppose you know best."

THE PRISONER.

Then some one looked over the lip and asked for the R.E.. It was Sapper Bellis, an infantry officer, and ten rank and file.

"Stay where you are," Hoyle said, and the two, with their German prisoner, climbed out of the crater and lay down in the dark. "You can't go in there yet," he went on, "and you can't man the outside of the lip because it will be dawn soon, and you would be enfiladed from both sides. You must leave it till to-night. Come on back, and, Impett, keep your eye on this fellow.'

The shelling had died down, and in little rushes they got back to their line.

"I am wet," the German officer said petulantly to Billie. "Will your officers give me dry clothes?"

"Perhaps," Billie answered politely. "Go on up the trench, you are blocking the way."

"But I am very wet."

"Fortune of war," Billie said, and for the life of him he couldn't help smiling. "You are not half as wet as those poor men of yours in the crater."

THE TRENCH GIRL.

One of the many anonymous gifts that fell into Picardy and were appropriated by Billie's Field Company, R.E., was a shilling album containing twelve of Kirchner's very unusual girl studies, and as one of the studies entitled "The Scout" was continually pinned up before Billie Impett's seat at the little mess, that young man quite naturally appropriated it as his particular pal.

To those who do not know the picture, I can say shortly that it is a figure of a girl in a Boy Scout's uniform with a French water bottle slung on the hip. Now, the French water-bottle has two openings, and is as practical as most military details of that intensely practical nation.

This very imaginative friendship between an R.E. subaltern and a purely imaginary girl ripened in a matter of ten days to a real thing, which may not be understood by those whose various disabilities have prevented them from seeing constant and heavy casualties.

What follows is merely a statement of facts without attempt at explanation, but perhaps someone whose lot has fallen amongst less distracting doings may develop in the quiet of his study, one of those reasoned arguments which have been described as "not only mathematically accurate, but absolutely untrue," so that Billie shall be deprived of his faith; but till that happens, I fancy that young man will attribute his life and the lives of many others to what the mess had come to call his "Trench Girl."

This was on the Somme, the French close on the right, and as Billie's section threaded out in the dark to reclaim a smashed German trench Sergeant Armstrong remarked that it was not a nice place. Of course it was not, for the Hun knew where it was, and naturally knew also that someone would be working there, but Billie said it could not be helped, and busied himself with the job on hand.

Now, for sheer uncomplaining gallantry in cold blood it is doubtful whether any arm of the service can surpass a first-class field company, R.E., for the work is all suffering and no reprisal, but I think that night pretty well tried up the sticking powers of Billie and his sappers. Once, after a particularly awful minute, Billie hesitated, swung round with the intention of asking Sergeant Armstrong what he thought about it, and in the flash of shell fire saw the bare knees of a sapper, for it was summer and the company were in "shorts" and puttees. It looked horribly like a Scout, he thought, and he got up on to the parapet to steady anyone who might perhaps be feeling just as he felt himself. There he met Sapper Bellis gauging the thickness and height of the work, and promptly told him to get down into the trench, and 869 Sapper Bellis for once was grossly insubordinate.

INSUBORDINATION.

"Get down yourself, sir," he said. "What does it matter if they 'its me?"

Then Billie lost his temper, as the best will do under stress, and ordered Bellis to go into the trench, was flatly defied, and told that very insubordinate sapper to consider himself under arrest.

Bellis' reply was purely technical. "Some of these chaps don't know as a parapet is a thing you 'as to fire over," he said. "You'd think they was diggin' their graves." So Billie gave it up, and walked down the line, showing against the sky in every shell-burst and doing, as a matter of fact, exactly what Bellis had suggested, warning the men not to raise the work higher than could comfortably be fired over. Then he began to feel sorry that he had spoken to Bellis as he had done, turned round, and found that very real gentleman at his shoulder.

"What do you want, Bellis?" he said.

"Shouldn't go about alone, sir," the other answered. Your orderly got 'it as you was putting me under arrest. I wasn't sure as you knew."

"Bellis," Billie said, "you're a damned good sort," and that amazing couple walked back along the parapet, their figures silhouetted against the sky as the shell-flashes lit up the night.

It would be untrue to say that Billie was not worried. No reasoning man who was quite sober could be anything but apprehensive under such conditions, and perhaps that was why he asked Bellis if he had ever been in the Boy Scouts. Anyway, he did, and Bellis, recovering from an unseen gap in the parapet, said—"No, sir." Then a shell, beautifully ranged, burst right in the trench, and Billie took two scars across the face from flying earth and stones that he was never to lose.

"Go and fetch Sergeant Armstrong," he said to Bellis. "It is nearly two o'clock."

Then with the unreasoning punctuality of the Hun gunner the shelling ceased, and Billie dropped carefully into the trench. Experience told everyone still alive that that was the end for the night, so Billie slipped into a hole and smoked.

BILLIE MISSES HIS WAY.

After ten minutes Sergeant Armstrong said—"Two o'clock, sir, and a lot of casualties."

"Yes, I know," Billie said. "Get the men together. What are the casualties?"

"Nine killed, sir twelve wounded, eighteen left not enough to man the stretchers."

Billie, who was not to be hurried, said, "Sit down," and lit another cigarette. "Nearest infantry about four hundred yards," he said; "came through their trench on the way up That's all right. Got a compass? Well, take mine, and get away with all you can carry. I'll slip along and get help."

Now, as everyone knows or can imagine, night walking in strange trenches is a difficult thing, so that after seeing the stretchers off and talking to the wounded it is not altogether surprising that Billie was uncertain of the way, for the trenches were intricate and he was tired. Of course, once you start walking along old enemy trenches without knowledge you are as likely to get to Berlin as Boulogne, which Billie knew, so that after a few minutes, during which he had recognised nothing and had certainly missed a sound guiding sign in the shape of a deep shell hole through which they had waded on coming out, he stopped, and came to the conclusion that he was lost.

Of course, he could wait till daylight, and by peeping over the top take a bearing, and at anyrate set off in the right direction, but there were the wounded to consider. Billie, looking at his watch, saw it was half-past two, and pictured the other subalterns drifting into the warm mess-room, till in the misery of his weariness he lay down on the fire-step in despair. After all, he thought, it was better to stay with the wounded than to walk into the German line and leave them to their fate. Of course, there was his Trench Girl, but she only seemed to come when he was in danger, whereas here all he had to do was to just wait till dawn. But, then, there were the wounded. And there was his mother too.

BILLIE'S MASCOT TO THE RESCUE.

Billie tried hard to rouse himself, and in a determined effort to think out the general plan of the trenches he pictured them in his mind from the moment he had passed the infantry on his way up. Visualising things was a trick of his from boyhood, and in a few minutes the main communication trench began to show clearly with little forgotten features that made him smile. Low-hanging telephone wires, a water-pipe that crossed the trench about a foot above the duck boards and caused every man to mutter "Pipe under foot" to the sappers following in the dark, till gradually the rough plan lay mentally visible, and he began to think backwards from where the wounded lay patiently a hundred yards away.

There was an island traverse at one part, he remembered, and in imagination he picked his way carefully down one of its sides, going more and more slowly as he realised that he had forgotten what was on the other side. If once, in memory, he looked round the traverse and saw nothing, he knew that was the end. [illegible] traverse finished, and Billie look[ed] round the corner to see his [Kir]chner Scout just hitch her wa[ist] back off the hip and go on down [the] For about fifty yards she went, a cross-trench showed up, and [Bil]dered which of the three roads take. She took the right, and as the corner Billie had just time that she was unslinging her and then rolled off the fire step ground. That waked him up, the dirt off his hands, he said funny thing. The worst of it don't know which trench of the took. They all looked alike" a minute he said—"I'll try the way," and turned to his left.

It was a fairly decent trench stepped out something touched ing hand, so that he stopped curiosity to feel it all over. It was a water bottle, common derelicts in that stricken district. two openings. Now, that was "Trench Girl" carried on her have said before, and Billie began It was certainly French, and position be quite conspicuous. Yet it was still there. That absence of Germans. A sound such things are, and yet, when the hazard of his life, Billie thought slim thing to go on. "Better turning," he said to himself, and slinging bottle over his shoulder, added enough, carry on," so that minutes he halted on the point of bayonet and was taken to the charge.

Whether all this is the reason that asked the mess president to give him picture of the "Scout" I cannot say, it subsequently came to the notice of tailed Hoyle that one of the sappers was a cabinetmaker, was indenting the orderly room for a small quantity special wood for a frame.

NEXT WEEK—

Another great narrative of Billie Impett's adventures on the western front.

"GET IT AT ANDERSON'S"

HAIR DYE, in Auburn, Blonde, Brown and Black Colours. SAFE and SURE. Bottles, 1/3 each.

HAIR RESTORER. It Renews Grey or Faded Hair to its Natural Colour Gradually. Bots., 1/3 each.

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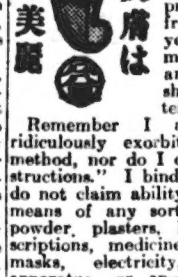
The Depot in Dundee for all Medicines at Wholesale Prices.

WRINKLES—HOW TH[E]

JAPANESE BANISH THEM FOR EVE[R]

Accept this great offer made to introduce in the country a totally new method guaranteed to permanently remove even the deepest creases within one week.

Nothing even remotely resembling the new Japanese method has ever been heard of in this country before. That is the only reason why so many women now have wrinkles and still consider them inevitable. I want one thousand ladies in this country to remove their wrinkles by this method and ask them to recommend it to their friends AFTER it has done all I claim. This is frankly an advertising offer, but the names and addresses will be treated as strictly confidential and not used in any way. I prefer applicants to be from forty to sixty years of age, and the more wrinkled they are the more pleased I shall be to make them ten to thirty years younger.



Remember I am not asking you to buy any ridiculously exorbitant price to try my method, nor do I charge you for any instructions." I bind no one to secrecy, as I do not claim ability to remove wrinkles by means of any sort of "flesh food," face powder, plasters, lotions, or pastes, prescriptions, medicines, steaming, massage masks, electricity, exercises, machines, apparatus, or any mechanical appliance whatsoever. In fact, I have no creams or articles of any kind to sell you for removing wrinkles and I do not recommend any complicated "treatment" or "system," either duplex triplex, or any other sort of "plex."

I guarantee to hold this offer open to applicants for one month from the date this announcement appears. SEND NO MONEY, but, if convenient, three penny stamps may be enclosed for my posting expenses. There is no obligation of any kind. Merely write Mme. Y. Miyako, (Dept. 164A), 254, High Holborn Street, London, W.1., and your letter will receive prompt attention, under plain sealed cover. I agree to return your postage in full if you are not entirely astonished, and delighted by what I send you.

WANTED TO PURCHASE

MOLE SKINS. MOLE SKIN[S]

K. DESMOND & CO. are now paying record prices for MOLE SKINS. Full Furred Winter Skins, 65/- per hundred; second quality, 45/-. Also buyers of FOX, OTTER, BADGER, CAT & RABBIT SKINS. Remittance by return. Write for New Price List now ready. Oldest and most reliable firm in the trade.

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PACIFISM IN SCOTTISH PULPITS

AN END TO CLERICAL TOMFOOLERY!

SERMON CENSORSHIP WANTED.

BILLY SUNDAY'S "BOMBSHELLS."

One notable feature of "The Post Sunday Special's" recent investigations has been the lurid light shed on the sayings and doings of certain Scottish preachers in relation to the war.

It is certainly a lamentable commentary on the position of the Church in these times that while our brave fighting men—the flower of our manhood—are shedding their blood and by supreme acts of self-sacrifice and heroism driving back the brutal foe—Church pulpits at home are being used for the preaching of doctrines which, if realised, would sound the death-knell of truth and liberty and righteousness and all that the Church of God stands for upon the earth.

It is nothing to the point that some of these pulpiteers are young men scarcely out of their theological swaddling clothes—young men, perhaps, who, but for the profession to which they belong, would to-day be clothed in khaki. The Church has a serious responsibility in this matter, and if it is to tolerate the use of its pulpits for the disheartening of its own members and the spreading of false and pernicious propaganda among people naturally peace-loving and God-fearing, then we do not wonder that "reconstruction" is becoming a problem with all who have at heart the welfare of true religion in the land.

MINISTERIAL "MARTYRS."

During the past few weeks, thanks to the co-operation of our readers, we have been able to show clearly the mental attitude of certain clerics whose pulpit utterances are as mischievous in their effects as any blatant Pacifist pamphlet could well be. Stripped of all its religious coating, the message of these so-called ministers of the Gospel is just this — "Hands up! Your brothers have no doubt died on the battlefield in what they regarded as a sacred cause. Helpless men and women and little children, as you say, have been massacred by the Germans, Truth itself has been murdered, but——. Don't fight for your country. You must meet force with love. Let us become a martyrdom nation." (Our readers must have observed the curious similarity of these phrases about "force" and "martyrdom" in the mouths of the clergymen whom we have brought under notice. It looks as if these phrases had been coined in a common mint!)

"A martyrdom nation," forsooth! But it seems a cheap form of martyrdom when it is preached in churches that would to-day be razed to the dust like the noble edifices of France and Flanders but that they are protected by British guns and bayonets in the hands of our loyal and brave!

It would be futile to follow these reverend "martyrs" into the labyrinth of religious cant and humbug with which they defend their heartless and unhealthy teachings. We repeat that the Church has a duty to discharge in this matter if it be true to itself, for we do believe that its message to mankind is being misrepresented at this hour when so much is expected of it. "What man is there of you whom if his son ask bread will he give him a stone?"

STUPIDITY AT CHURCH HEAD-QUARTERS.

But if the Church has a duty to discharge in relation to its foolish and errant ministers, it has need also to guard against stupidity in its high places. Numerous communications have reached us — several from office-bearers of the Church—calling our attention to a circular issued to Presbyteries by the Committee on Public Questions of the U.F. Church. In this circular Presbyteries are asked in the name of religious liberty and spiritual independence to protest against the regulation under the Defence of the Realm Act prohibiting the printing and distribution of articles and pamphlets referring to the war unless the same are submitted to and sanctioned by the Official Press Bureau. Readers not that the Government have withdrawn this regulation. The fact remains that this Committee of the Church has ill-timed and uncalled for interference in a matter which has surely nothing to do with the preaching of Christ's Gospel. Moral support to the gang of Pacifist and disgruntled fanatics against whose seditious and treasonable leaflets the regulation was directed.

That this protest has already been instigated by several Presbyteries is what docile and tame-cat bodies the Presbyteries may become. Because this church committee would refuse to submit some of its own leaflets to the Press Bureau it called for this solemn protest in the name of "civil liberty"!

"O Liberty! Liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name."

And how many senseless and wicked things! How long will it take the wiseacres of this church committee to realise the truth that "liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraint"?

A "KNOCKOUT" BLOW.

Happily two Presbyteries have already given the "knock-out" blow to this presumptuous protest. In the Presbytery of Glasgow the Rev. Professor Moffatt—the most gifted scholar in the Church, an outstanding preacher, and, above all things, a man of strong commonsense—did not hesitate to characterise this protest resolution. "I regard it," he said, "as a stain on the Church that a resolution of this kind should appear on the agenda." Another clear-thinking and outspoken Presbyter reminded his colleagues that "if we were not prepared to restrict our liberty we would never win the war." And in the Presbytery of Brechin and Fordoun a public-spirited elder from Montrose "wondered that any committee would send out a circular of that nature," and "thought that the Church in this matter was setting a poor example!"

A poor example, indeed! The entire newspaper press of the country submits its intelligence to the Official Press Bureau, but because this committee feared that its leaflets must come under the same supervision, then in the name of "civil liberty and spiritual independence" the whole Church must protest! And we are a nation at war!

A SERMON BUREAU WANTED.

If the Church is wise—and in expressing this hope we refer to the Church in general—it will at once exercise its authority over the "liberties" which are being taken by some of its ministers in their pulpit deliverances. We should be ignoring the truth if we failed to acknowledge the fidelity with which it is discharging its high calling in the vast majority of its pulpits and through its chaplains at the front, but in the light of the revelations that have been made it is obvious that it must exert more supervision of sermons preached by ministers whose knowledge of the world is as meagre as is their understanding of human nature and the great and holy aims for which we are fighting.

If the Church will tolerate a continuance of this clerical tomfoolery—then the people won't!

BILLY SUNDAY AND THE PACIFISTS.

AMERICAN PREACHER'S "BOMBSHELLS."

Billy Sunday, the famous revival preacher, has been rendering yeoman service to his country in the campaign against Pacifism in the United States. Here are a few of his latest "bombshells":—

"No man is true to his God who is not true to his country."

"Down with the God-forsaken, good-for-nothing pro-German Socialists and the pacifists. If you're not willing to fight these days you're living under the wrong flag."

"The pacifists will have to crawl into rat holes, making the rats crawl out."

"We'd rather be defeated fighting for liberty than live in a place without liberty."

"History has yet to recall the first victory of a man or a nation with its flag at half-mast."

"It's the Kaiser against the President, Germany against America, Hell against Heaven."

"You women, if your husband sleeps somewhere in France, you'll never be ashamed to tell your children why he doesn't come home, anyhow."

"The Kaiser has made the devil ashamed he's a devil. The hell he's raised on earth has made the real hell a side-show."

"When it comes to lying, the Kaiser made Ananias look like a Sunday school superintendent."

"Germany lost out when she traded the Cross of Calvary for the Iron Cross of Germany."

"We are either loyal these days or we are not; there is no middle ground; a man is either a patriot or a traitor."

"This talk that we are not fighting the German people—that's bunk. They've been taught for forty years they were to rule the world."

"We'll bury the Prussians so deep they'll never hear the trump of Gabriel at the resurrection."

"Liberty cannot survive unless it's defended. It's either bonds or bondage for us. If the bonds are no good, your banks, your homes, your country are no good. Come through."

'CONCHIES' IN FRONT OF FIRING LINE.

AMAZING SUGGESTION BY GLASGOW MINISTER.

WOULD TRUST GERMAN PEOPLE.

Our attention has been drawn to some recent utterances of the Rev. Charles Heughan, M.A., minister of Hutchesontown Parish Church, in which he has advocated the peace by negotiation idea. Hutchesontown is a populous district on the south side of the river, and the attitude of the parish minister towards the war situation is the subject of considerable talk in the locality.

Indeed, when he was preaching a sermon some time ago, several members of the congregation rose and left the church as personal protests against Mr Heughan's utterances.

A representative of "The Post Sunday Special" interviewed the Rev. Mr Heughan, who is a tall, young fellow, with an attractive manner. He laughed when told that it was suggested he was preaching unpatriotic doctrines.

"Do you deny or confirm it, Mr Heughan?" asked our representative.

"I deny it, of course. I am heart and soul for the right, and our war is a righteous war. The complaint probably comes from the party who objected to a sermon I preached at Eaglesham. My answer was the publication of that sermon in the local press.

"Are you a Pacifist?"

"We all wish for peace."

"But do you favour peace now, peace by negotiation?"

"I do. How else can this war be ended? Besides, we have made a German victory impossible."

"Then you are prepared to trust Germany not to break another treaty?"

Prepared to Trust the German People.

"I am prepared to trust the German people. What the Church must strive to do is to draw the peoples of all nations together into one loving brotherhood."

"Some problem that!"

"True, but there have been miracles in this war. Our victory at the Marne was a miracle—a miracle which doomed to defeat what Germany set out to achieve."

"And Germany may say the Russian debacle is a miracle, and also the disaster to Italy."

"All of which assures me that God does not intend one side or the other to win," said the rev. gentleman. "Commercial rivalry and jealousy caused the war, and the war is not to be finished by fighting until one side gives in from sheer economical and physical exhaustion."

"Why?"

"Because America and Japan will not allow it. America's intervention is meant to promote peace now."

"But President Wilson is in to abolish the German military system—is in to fight the German people until they turn upon their military masters and send them about their business."

"That, I think, could be accomplished without more fighting. It is an indisputable fact that Germany wants an immediate peace."

"With the map to remain as it is at present—with Germany holding most of Belgium, most of Serbia, most of Roumania, all Poland, a slice of Russia, a portion of France, and a bit of Italy?"

"That is a matter, together with the question of the German colonies, which could be satisfactorily settled without retarding peace."

"But that would be a German victory, and the sure foundation upon which to build for another war some years hence."

Did Not Believe Germany Would Wage Another War.

"No. I believe the world has had enough of war, and that out of this terrible struggle will emerge a better world—an all-transforming religion in which war will be no more."

"We can hardly speak, Mr Heughan, for the future generations, and—well, we know what Germany's word is worth. Would you take it?"

"It is the only way to finish the war."

"Are you a conscientious objector?"

"I am, and I think that we conscientious objectors should not be behind the firing lines, but in front of the firing lines. At meetings of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, at I.L.P. meetings, at meetings of conscientious objectors, I have advocated that strongly. We should be gathered together and enter into 'No Man's Land.' Conscientious objectors on the other side should do likewise, and there would result a meeting and commingling which would have a far-reaching and most gratifying effect. An objection is raised that the military would veto such a plan, but that can only be proved by attempting to carry the plan out."

"How would you get the idea conveyed to the enemy?"

"Through the churches perhaps."

"And, of course, with the consent of the German military authorities, who are supreme?"

"That might not be so difficult as you imagine."

FELLOWSHIP OFFICES RAIDED BY POLICE.

The head offices of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, which stand in Red Lion Square, London, W.C., have been raided by the police.

This is the Fellowship to which belong Dr Hodgkin and the Rev. Leyton Richards, whose propaganda work in Scotland was commented on in "The Post Sunday Special" of Dec. 2.

HUNTER BEATTIE CLAIMED BY ARMY.

SEARCHING QUESTIONS AT GLASGOW TRIBUNAL.

Hunter Beattie, 25 Monteith Row, Glasgow, whose pernicious pacifist propaganda was exposed in "The Post Sunday Special" of November 25, has had his exemption certificate withdrawn by the Tribunal on an appeal by the military authorities.

Beattie appeared on Tuesday before the Tribunal in No. 4 Committee Room of the Municipal Buildings, when the appeal was unanimously sustained.

When his case was called Beattie stepped inside with soldierly smartness. Well clad and well groomed, he looked "in the pink," to use a sporting phrase. He wore a heavy overcoat, and carried a small black attaché case. His hair was brushed to perfection, and his thick, dark-brown moustache was faultlessly trimmed.

Hunter Beattie, age 40, married, by occupation an evangelist, who has devoted his whole time to the ministry of the Gospel for years among a body known as the Brethren, who got conditional exemption on the 16th August, 1916, and for the withdrawal of which exemption the military authorities are now appealing. In that manner was the case introduced to the Tribunal.

A Letter to the Tribunal.

Then Mr Allan (the clerk) read a long letter dated the 7th December, from Hunter Beattie, in the course of which he wrote:—

"I was surprised to receive to-day notice to the effect that the National Service representative desires the withdrawal of the exemption card I hold. When I appealed for exemption I did so on conscientious grounds. The exemption card stated it was granted on the ground of domestic hardship, I presume because I had then six children, and now seven, I may say. I have a very busy life with preachings, medical work, visiting, conducting funerals, and officiating at marriages, &c., and work rarely less than sixteen hours daily."

From the Gospel Hall, 18 Tylefield Street, Glasgow, and signed by Robert Souter, Robert Lowan, Ed. Munro, Hugh Findlay, and J. Rennie came a statement expressing surprise that Beattie had been summoned before the Tribunal.

Hunter Beattie Cross-Examined.

"Who pays your salary?" asked the military representative (Col. Graham).

"There is no salary paid," said Beattie. "We receive gifts from the people of God and from churches among whom we labour, but the Brethren recognise no salary."

"Well, what have you been receiving these last few years?"

"Oh, on an average perhaps from £170 to £190."

"Do the tenets of the Brethren not forbid that?" This by Bailie Davidson.

"Oh, no, not as gifts, but on no account must there be paid ministers."

Bailie Davidson—It will be only among the members of this Brotherhood that you carry out your tenets?

Beattie—Oh, yes.

Bailie Davidson—I think you would be well advised to rest your claim on domestic grounds. I don't think it is prudent of you as a father of a big family to put forward what you have done to-day.

Beattie—I do not mind if the Tribunal decides that.

"But you rest your claim on the fact that you are a minister of the Gospel, and ministers of the Gospel are exempt," said the Chairman.

Beattie—That is my case.

The Clerk pointed out that the army instructions concerning the exemption of ministers did not include men connected with the Brethren.

"All evangelists similar to me have been exempted, and the authorities have recognised emphatically evangelists among Brethren as ministers of the Gospel," Beattie retorted with some tartness.

Councillor Whitehead—Do you follow any other work?

Beattie—"I am in no civil employment. My whole time is devoted to the work of the Lord."

Beattie and His Pamphlets.

"Are you an author?" asked the Chairman.

Beattie—"I am."

"Are your pamphlets in accordance with the tenets of your Brethren?"

Beattie—"They are."

"Do the Brethren approve of them?"

Beattie—"Some of them don't; many of them do."

The Chairman—"I see. Then you are not in complete accord?"

Beattie—"Oh, yes, most assuredly."

The Chairman—"Oh, no, not when your writings are objected to by some of your Brethren."

"Only by one or two. I can produce their applications for my writings. I have them here with me (Beattie speaking with some warmth held up a little red book)—my writings accepted by the very men who have put their names to the objections."

Councillor Whitehead — "Has it never struck you that you might have volunteered to go for a time and preach your Gospel to the boys at the front?"

Beattie — "We who are among the Brethren respond to the call of God."

"We all do," exclaimed Councillor Whitehead.

"Where God sends me I go, and I go nowhere else," said Beattie clasping his hands.

"Rubbish," snapped the Councillor, and the Tribunal smiled.

The Chairman—"The military appeal is sustained, and the exemption is withdrawn. You are no longer exempt."

Beattie—"I am still a minister of Jesus Christ."

Councillor Whitehead—"And we are soldiers of His."

Beattie—"No, I'm not."

Beattie was then presented with a notice withdrawing his exemption. In the corridor several of his supporters gathered about him and accompanied him down the stairs.

PRESBYTERY

SITS IN PRIVATE

OVER MOTHERWELL PAMPHLETS.

The case of the pacifist papers distributed among the children of Manse Road U.F. Church, Motherwell (exposed in "The Post Sunday Special" of November 18), came before the Hamilton U.F. Presbytery at its meeting in the West U.F. Church, Hamilton, on Tuesday.

The subject was not specifically mentioned in the agenda, but the "fathers and brethren" had warning that it was to be dealt with from the announcement made by Mr James Burns, town clerk, at Motherwell Town Council that he had forwarded the papers in question to the U.F. Presbytery.

After some preliminary business the Clerk of Presbytery (Rev. Charles Campbell, Airdrie) said he had one other communication to submit, which, he suggested, should be dealt with in private in the meantime.

The Presbytery approved of this suggestion.

The Clerk, we are informed, then read a letter from the Town Clerk of Motherwell, directing attention to the fact that certain literature and periodicals (copies of which were enclosed) were being distributed to the children of Manse Road U.F. Church. Copies of "The Post Sunday Special," in which the articles dealing with this incident had been published, were also before the meeting.

There was a deal of discussion as to the course which should be pursued. Some members thought that, in the first instance, the Kirk Session of Manse Road Church, and not the Presbytery, should have been honoured with the communication from the Town Clerk of Motherwell

In the end the Presbytery agreed to receive the communication from the Town Council, to acknowledge its receipt, and to intimate further that the matter referred to "will receive consideration."

Following upon this, there was a brief discussion as to the further course to be followed. Eventually a committee, comprising three clerical and two lay members of the Presbytery, were appointed to confer with the Kirk Session of Manse Road congregation, and to report to a future meeting.

While the Rev. J. E. Macintyre was silent during the whole of the discussion of this matter affecting his own particular church, he was very much in the limelight during the subsequent proceedings of the Presbytery.

AN OLD SCOTS NAME.

GLASGOW BUSINESS MAN AND THE RUMOURS

We received the other day a telephone message from Mr Ludovic M'Lellan Mann, of the well-known Glasgow firm, Ludovic Mann & Co., insurance managers, &c., requesting one of our representatives to call upon him.

A member of "The Post" staff visited Mr Mann at his office at 144 St Vincent Street. Mr Mann stated that he frequently receives communications indicating that rumours are about that he has some relationship with alien blood.

"These rumours seem to arise from the conjunction of my Christian and surname," he said. "Some people seem to think Ludovic is a German name. That is a great mistake, and shows ignorance of Scottish genealogy. Ludovic is an old Scottish name, and is a name peculiar to old Scottish families. Ludovics are to be found amongst the Grants—Sir Ludovic James Grant, for instance—Lindsays, Houstons, M'Farlanes, M'Auslins, &c. It was a common name in Scotland up to the 18th century when the custom developed of calling children after names in the Bible.

"I am a Glasgow man, and I come of a family closely connected with Glasgow," Mr Mann proceeded, "and this business has been in existence for 102 years. My father, Mr John Mann, C.A., was born in Jamaica Street in 1827. He died in 1910. My grandfather was born in 1797 in Tradeston. I was named after a relative, Captain Ludovic M'Lellan, who was born about 1800. My mother comes of an old North of England family—the Harringtons. There has never been an alien taint in our family.

"Neither the firm nor myself have the slightest connection with aliens, and we approve of the utmost investigation into the alien question. I may say that 23 young men from our office at 144 St Vincent Street joined the colours immediately war was declared. Six of these have been killed and a number wounded."

Mr John Mann, who for three years has acted as Financial Secretary to the Ministry of Munitions, is a brother of Mr Ludovic Mann, another brother being Mr Harrington Mann, the well known portrait painter.

Our Readers' Assistance.

We have to thank our readers for their continued co-operation, and shall be glad to have further information relating to anti-British activities in whatever guise they may present themselves, and also copies of pacifist or pro-German leaflets.

PATRIOTIC Democracy.—Under the auspices of the British Workers' League, a meeting will be held in Central Hall, Bath Street, Glasgow, on Monday, 17th Dec., at 8 p.m. Speakers—David Gilmour, O.B.E., Scottish Miners' Union, and Jno. A. Seddon, ex-M.P.

LATEST FROM LONDON.

CABINET'S MAN-POWER TROUBLES.

MEMBER THREATENS TO RESIGN.

(By "Post" Special Wire.)

London, Saturday Night.

CONTRARY to general expectation, the Government is not yet in a position to announce its policy regarding the growing demands of the army. The delay is due to division of opinion regarding the best means of meeting army requirements.

It is not exaggerating to say that something akin to an ultimatum has been received from a member of the Government responsible for meeting army needs. He suggests a thorough comb-out of fit men from reserved occupations, with the exception of munition works, but there are serious difficulties in the way of Government action on these lines, because a very powerful industrial organisation has intimated that it is not convinced of the need for a "comb-out" in a group of industries specially mentioned.

There has been an attempt to come to terms with the trade unions affected, but this attempt has not succeeded. The present position is that unless agreement can be reached there may be a resignation from the Government.

A very delicate stage in negotiations with the Labour Party has been reached, and one day this week the relations between the Government and the Labour Party were strained to breaking point. Only the tactful handling of the question by the Premier prevented a rupture. The question of raising the age limit is still under consideration.

Pacifist Secret Press.

The belated action of Scotland Yard in offering a reward for information leading to the discovery of the secret press which is circulating stories designed to serve the interests of Germany by causing unrest in the army and among the civilian population has not occasioned surprise to those who have been watching the activities of the Pacifists.

That such a secret friend of the Huns has been at work for months past was obvious from the systematic way in which rumours of the most disquieting character were put into circulation.

There is reason to believe that this secret press work was only in its infancy in this country. In France and in Italy it had been developed to a greater extent. In the former country it was part of the defaitist propaganda carried on by the Bonnet Rouge, startling revelations in conection with which are promised as the result of the inquiry into the charges against ex-Premier Caillaux. Lately it has been responsible for the circulation of millions of anonymous leaflets among the workers and wholesale incitement to strikes. Energetic measures were taken by the French Government, with the result that there have been many arrests of suspects, one of the arrested ringleaders being a boy of fifteen, who has already figured in the Courts in connection with seditious propaganda.

In Italy the Hun press agents went the length of circulating bogus wireless communiques making reflections on the bravery of Italian troops, and these were subsequently amplified by mysterious messages printed and circulated throughout Italy, in which troops from particular districts were accused of having given way to the enemy.

The action taken by the authorities may save us from further developments of this character.

Labour's War Aims.

Labour leaders are disappointed with Mr Lloyd George's speech because of his failure to state the war aims of the Allies as clearly as they wish to have them stated. Information which has come into the possession of the leaders of the Labour Party in the last few days suggests that much harm has been done to the Allied cause by the circulation from Petrograd of the documents relating to "secret agreements between the Entente Powers."

In the absence of any statement from the Allies regarding these, the garbled accounts circulated through German sources have been accepted in neutral countries, and the impression that the Allies had designs of conquest on Germany has been strengthened in consequence. The Labour leaders intend to make immediate representations to the Government on the subject, and to press for a full statement of the present war aims of the Allies.

To further this demand, it has been decided to call a national conference of labour organisations to meet in London on the 27th of this month. The same conference will deal with the proposal to call a meeting of the International Socialist Bureau to discuss peace terms.

The patriotic majority of the Labour members are opposed to such a meeting, and will suggest that the conference only authorise a meeting with the delegates from Allied countries, but the Macdonaldites are all for an ambiguous mandate which would enable them to meet the German Socialists after coming to an agreement with the delegates from Allied countries respecting war aims.

Mr Lloyd George's Next Speech.

Apart from the food debate the week in Parliament promises to be an important one. On Wednesday a group of Liberal members who are not identified with the Pacifists intend to raise a discussion on war aims, and we shall probably hear more then of the famous Lansdowne letter.

Mr Lloyd George is reserving himself for Thursday, when, on the motion for the adjournment, he will speak on the war and the military situation generally. If by that time the Cabinet Committee which is inquiring into the question has reached a final decision, the Prime Minister may say something on the subject of man-power. The House of Commons will then adjourn until January 14.

DUMPING SPIES BY U BOAT.

ENEMY'S LATEST DODGES: PROBLEM OF AMERICAN TRANSPORT.

By MAURICE PRENDERGAST.

London, Saturday.

SIR ERIC GEDDES has given us again straight and plain talking, telling us simply and clearly what we have done and what we must do.

Germany is still building submarines faster than we sink them. So much Sir Eric Geddes let us know six weeks ago. No official figures have ever been given in this connection, but the proportion of U boats sunk to U boats completed is probably eight to five or three to two. That is, for every five or two submarines destroyed by us, Germany completes eight, or three new boats, replacing her losses and adding one to three additional craft to her underwater flotillas.

Though pirates are growing more numerous, we are holding our own. It is believed that Germany's submarine-building powers are getting somewhere near their maximum. The enemy has added very few big Dreadnoughts and battle-cruisers to his fleet since the war began. The big naval ships now unfinished in German yards are progressing towards completion at an incredibly slow rate. About fifteen German light cruisers have been finished, nearly a hundred destroyers, and a little over eighty minesweepers and other naval auxiliaries. But every ounce of energy Germany can spare or collect has been put into the building of submersibles and submarines.

The losses of U boats are going up slowly—but surely and steadily. Some time next year it is hoped that the point will be reached when Germany cannot build any faster. Then we will begin to overtake her, sinking more pirates than she can build, and her sub-surface flotillas will start to dwindle. But Germany has given us a few nasty shocks already, and our plans must be prepared on the assumption that the enemy will struggle on and build his boats as fast or faster than we can put them down.

Turning the Corner.

On our side it looks as if we were just going to turn the corner, putting out more mercantile vessels than the enemy destroys per month. Sir Leo Chiozza Money has stated in the House of Commons that, during last month we completed seven standard ships, all of about 5200 tons. As has been admitted in the press, one of these vessels has been wrecked. But the seven "standards," taken with other new tonnage completed, have come within "measurable distance" of compensating for our November losses. A "measurable distance" would be 75 per cent. of ships sunk replaced by new ones.

But we have to remember that vast arrears have still to be overtaken. Our losses during September and August, back to April and May (most disastrous months for our mercantile marine), and up to the beginning of piracy in February, 1915, have still to be made good. Neutral tonnage, largely employed in carrying our freights, has also been heavily hit. Those losses must be remedied, either by new ships, built for ourselves, or for neutral countries.

Sir Eric Geddes gave an excellent summary of our building efforts and resources. We have a vast programme of new ships for the fleet in hand, including an enormous number of anti-submarine vessels and appliances. Shipbuilding this year will equal the effort of 1913, which was the best twelve months of output ever recorded. Next year our yards should set up a figure greatly superior to the total of 1913. Our salvage, docking, and repairing resources were shown by the First Lord to be organised on most efficient lines. Steel supplies are assured for next year, but all our energy will be wasted unless one vital factor is supplied. It is labour, and in large quantities.

An interesting item in Sir Eric Geddes' speech was his reference to the building of concrete vessels. It was in 1915 that the first "stone ships" were built, only being small barges, turned out in Italy. Since then this method of building has made good headway. Norway has built small concrete vessels, propelled by motor engines, while Sweden, Denmark, Holland, France, and America are just beginning to build on the "hen-coop and plaster" system, as it has rudely been called by proud and puffy steelworkers. But, for the sake of my own peace of mind, let me say that the "proud and puffy" are not located in the Glasgow district!

Sir Eric Geddes also made a brief remark about the successful use of barge transport across the Channel. This is a new development, and a very ingenious way of getting supplies into France to our armies, while releasing at the same time steam tonnage for other services, including food carrying. The First Lord declared we are going on with the building of 1000-ton concrete barges.

U Boats and Spies.

The latest activity of the German submarines is playing postman. Grounds exist for believing that letters and packets, sent from South America to agencies in Spain, are collected and shipped to Germany by U boats. One wonders if the famous blockade-running "liner," the Deutschland, is engaged on this mails traffic. It is certainly no novel duty for the pirates, for U35 took a letter from the Kaiser to King Alfonso, and delivered it at the Spanish port of Cartagena, many months ago. It is also believed that U boats are used for communicating with spies in hostile countries and dumping such agents on enemy territory. This kind of blockade-running reminds me that the famous Moewe must now be getting ready for her annual February excursion to the Atlantic. One wonders if we will catch her this time, or if she will outrun her luck.

It is not surprising to find the convoy system is being severely criticised at present. This method of protecting mercantile shipping has never been popular, and many were the grumbles of merchants and shipowners when we used it during the wars with Napoleon and the French more than a century ago. Convoy is slow, but its safety is demonstrated by the small number of ships sunk when this method is used. In itself the convoy plan is good, and many improvements have been made in it since its recent adoption.

Finding U boats is our great problem, and it is generally admitted they are best sought in the North Sea. But if a pirate gets into the Atlantic, where she has oceans of room to hide herself, hunting is not very successful. Instead of looking for the U boat, we let the U boat come to us. Submarines attempt to attack convoys, and at once make their location known. The escorting destroyers at once begin the counter-offensive, often with fine results. Convoy is therefore a safe defence, and also, in the form of "bait," a good expedient for attracting U boats into the reach of our destroyers. It is the single and unescorted ship at sea that the submarine finds the easiest victim.

Complaints have been uttered about the mixing of ships in convoys, fast ships being tied to slower ones, and so being compelled to move at the rate of the slowest ship in the fleet. This defect is inseparable from the convoy system. Mercantile vessels are not built like warships, in squadrons, each unit having the same speed as the other. Even if one got together twenty mercantile ships of fourteen knots designed speed, there would still be a laggard among the lot to play "sour gooseberry" to the rest, her speed having fallen off through bad coal, defective engines, foul hull, or other causes.

There is also the question of ships leaving the convoy. This has always been an old trouble, for the fast ships have the temptation to slip away from the slow ones, and land their goods earlier. The Apapa was allowed to leave her convoy, and made for a port through waters well known to be highly dangerous and infested with U boats, without any escort or protection at all except her own armament. It is little wonder she was sunk, and much dissatisfaction is being expressed about the whole incident. It appears necessary that we want two kinds of protecting ships for convoys. For cross-ocean voyages sloops armed and fairly large auxiliaries, or destroyers are needed. If the mercantile vessels separate they should not do so unless they have been turned over to the charge of port or coastal escorts.

Marvellous Uncle Sam!

The problem of transporting American troops across the Atlantic has more than once before been mentioned in these columns. Figures are, however, convincing things, and the U.S. Naval Department has just given practical demonstration of the difficulties to be faced. Estimates have been made of the troop-carrying capacity of sixteen of the big German liners seized in U.S. ports. It is not advisable to repeat the detailed American figures in this country, but among the vessels named is the Leviathan, better known under her old German name of Vaterland. She is, I think, the biggest ship in the world. Taking her with the fifteen other famous German liners, I have added up the total troop-carrying capacity from the published U.S. figures, and find that the whole sixteen can only transport about 60,000 officers and men. Since America has some million or so of troops in training, it would take about thirty-two trips across the Atlantic by these huge ships to get a million "Sammies" landed in Europe.

Whether the Leviathan (ex-Vaterland) has really started on a career as a troopship I don't know. But the most marvellous stories have been circulated about her. Up to the present the list runs like this:—She has shipped 6000, 7000, 10,000, and 20,000 men; 15,000, 20,000 aeroplanes and 2000 tanks, landing these freights at Havre, Marseilles, Liverpool, Archangel, and Vladivostok. To entertain herself during her voyage she has also sunk several score of U boats. If the Germans find this information interesting they are welcome to it. They can pay their money and take their choice. They may also be interested to hear that the Leviathan is going to land Kaledin and Korniloff's Cossacks at Leith some time next Wednesday, weather permitting, and that the cinema rights have already been assigned. U boats must take their place in the queue, as there will be no early doors.

The torpedoing of the Jacob Jones is the first score for the U boats against the American destroyers. The sunken ship was among the first of the U.S. destroyers to arrive in European waters, and was a very fine boat, only completed in 1916. Her name—Jacob Jones—is rather puzzling, as few people know to which unit of the Jones' tribe she refers. So it may be mentioned that U.S. destroyers are named after famous naval officers, among which Jacob Jones is one. The loss of this boat need not be taken to heart too much. If report runs for anything, some hundreds of new destroyers are building now in American shipyards, for which 350 millions of dollars have been voted by Congress.

Italians' Splendid Exploit.

It is a pity that none of our papers have paid proper tribute to the recent Italian naval success. The attack, made by the Italian torpedo craft on the Austro-Hungarian Fleet in Trieste Harbour, was a splendid exploit, and an almost unique incident in the naval annals of this war. Trieste harbour is protected by powerful forts and batteries, searchlights, booms, and other defences. Italian torpedo craft have once before succeeded in getting through these defences, but they found the Austrian warships fenced round with rings of nets and other torpedo-stopping devices.

The second attempt, made last Sunday night, met with greater reward. Four torpedoes were launched against two Austrian battleships of the Monarch type, and the Austrians admit that one ship, the Wien, was sunk. In spite of a terrific fire from the hostile batteries and warships, and attacks made by enemy destroyers using guns and torpedoes, the Italian boats managed to escape without loss. For a like episode we have to go back ten years, to the days when the Japanese destroyers made night assaults on the Russian Fleet at Port-Arthur. This is the first loss of a hostile battleship reported since the battle of Jutland, and the first serious casualty for the Austrian Navy after forty months of sea fighting.

From a reliable source I learn that Austria has done but little in the way of building new warships. Four Dreadnoughts were said to have been begun during the autumn of 1914, and one, building at Pola Dockyard, was severely damaged by fire when on the stocks. All these four ships have been abandoned; none of them have ever been launched. A single light cruiser has been turned out, but Austrian war construction chiefly consists of torpedo craft, a fair number of new submarines, and perhaps certain auxiliaries, such as mine-layers and sweepers, small patrol boats, &c.

HINDENBURG'S HUMBUG

EXPOSED BY GERMAN JOURNAL.

SHORT-SIGHTED HUN IDOLS.

(Specially Contributed.)

THE well-known Berlin war correspondent, Dr Paul Goldmann, of the Neue Freie Presse, has interviewed Generals Hindenburg and Ludendorff in a small town in the West. It is rather interesting to note the scathing criticism with which some of these popular idols' statements are greeted by the Vorwarts.

"Everything stands well on our fronts," said the Field-Marshal in answer to the first question of the journalist. "The war situation inspires the greatest confidence," added Ludendorff. "We shall have to make another winter of it unfortunately," continued Hindenburg, "and both we and our allies will have to make great efforts. The nearer we get to the end of the war, the less we should allow our strength to sink; we must be strong and peace will come of itself." General Ludendorff broke in with—"We cannot set a definite date for peace, but we may say one thing with great decision, the war will be decided in our favour." "Yes," added Hindenburg, "so we must not speak any more of peace just now; it is too soon, and peace is too tender a plant to endure much rough handling."

Peace—Nearer?

This last remark of Hindenburg's has aroused stormy criticism in the Vorwarts. "Good politicians are of the opinion that a general peace has come much nearer," it says. "Have we not an armistice with the Russian country since the 24th November, and has not Lord Lansdowne, one of the first British statesmen, not made a statement on this very question? Yet Hindenburg does not wish to speak of peace! If not now, when? And we would also point out that, though the war leadership belongs to the generals, the decision of all political questions should be decided by statesmen.

"Ludendorff's opinion on the Russian question may be summarised thus:—'It has repeatedly been said that the Russian Revolution was a lucky chance for us, but I must protest against such a statement. It was no lucky chance, but a natural and necessary consequence of our campaign. Modern warfare has changed greatly from that of former times. Formerly armies made war on each other, now it is a war of nations. There are no decisive battles as in former campaigns. Military defeats shake the confidence of the nations in their Government and the opposition gains power. The Government falls, and if, as in Russia, the whole system is rotten to the core, it comes to a national collapse. The Russian Revolution was no lucky chance, but the natural consequences of our victories.'

Not the Case With Italy.

"This is a gross under-estimation of the Russian Revolution," says the Vorwarts. "For instance, in Italy, the German-Austrian offensive has had exactly the opposite effect, and has turned the official Socialists, who were refusing credit, into defenders of their country. Thus Ludendorff is not right to say that what happened in Russia might happen with other nations."

Field-Marshal Hindenburg holds the opinion that the Russian Army will henceforth not give them much trouble. He also treats the question of American help for the Allies very contemptuously. He thinks it is most unlikely the Americans will deprive their country of troops, while they have the fear of Japan in front of their doors.

Ludendorff said that "had not the prospect of American help opened up the Western Powers would have been forced to give in and make peace."

The General Field-Masrhal then took leave with these words — "We must still have patience, but we shall bring the war to a satisfactory end. Tell Austria that with a greeting from me."

The Vorwarts very pertinently remarks—"Both these gentlemen are great military experts, but in political matters they are not to be so much relied on."

DUMPING SPIES BY U BOAT—Contd.

LATEST COMMENTS FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS.

The Word for the Moment.

For the moment there is but one word—and that is to stand fast.—New Witness.

Backed the Wrong Horse.

The truth is that Mr Lloyd George put our money on the wrong horse; he backed Kerensky and the Revolution for [illegible] of millions, and he has lost our [illegible]—Saturday Review.

"Sacrificed."

The First Seven Divisions were [illegible] by the sloth and blindness of [illegible] and the cowardice of its chosen [illegible] is due to the dead we should [illegible] to-day.—Morning Post.

Only the Prelude.

It will surprise many people if [illegible] mutiny in the German Navy does not [illegible] to have been merely the prelude [illegible] of a far more grave and decisive [illegible]—Naval and Military Record.

A King and His Peers.

"Thanks to the good offices of Mr [illegible] King, the Peers are to be admitted [illegible] secret sessions of the Commons. [illegible] Peer need not be too proud to [illegible] good offices of a King.—Star.

Converting Them.

You may have already observed, as we have done, how intensely loyal to the United States pro-German editors of seditious newspapers become the moment they are placed under arrest. — New Orleans States.

Civilisation's Motto.

When you catch a burglar you do not let him keep his gun. When civilisation catches the Kaiser, it will not let him keep his gun or his army or his navy. "No mercy for a mad dog," is civilisation's motto.—Chicago Blade.

Wretched Pasha!

The wretched Turk must feel a little glum when he sees his Allies taking their stand on their war maps and then turns his eyes towards Bagdad and Jerusalem. For [illegible] any rate, Prussian militarism is not quite a triumphant success.—Truth.

The Khaki View.

There are not many of us who will not be glad when this war is over, but I think the majority would sooner stick it another two years than let Germany have a say in the peace terms.—A Reservist in France in Daily Express.

Britain's Man-Power Reserves.

Germany has "arrayed the nation." She has called up younger men and older men than have yet been called up in Great Britain. She has called up men from every part of the German Empire, while we have failed to call up men from Ireland.—Spectator.

Peace at any Price.

The statement that Lenin has or [illegible] the evacuation of all territory east of the [illegible] front as far as Lake Peipus is almost incredible. If the people of Russia agree to that it means that they are determined to have peace, no matter what the price.—Dundee Courier.

The "War Lords'" Boast.

The Prussian "War Lords" boast that only autocracy can do things, and that democracies can but talk about doing them. It is for us and our Allies to teach the German people by the military success which alone appeals to them that the War Lords are wrong.—The Times.

Resolute!

The war is a monster that drains our blood, like the vampire, while we sleep, and yet the country is resolute that its fame and future must be safeguarded, and no tyrant Power be left to sprawl over the Continent. The trouble is that in the pursuit of our own dreams our short-range statesmen fail to mark how quickly the worst German dream is disappearing.—Nation.

The Society Drones.

In many windows of small provincial towns you may see a card bearing the words —"A MAN has gone from this house to fight for King and Country." It would not be a bad plan, if the charity mart and carnival business were to wither under the sirocco of public opinion, to have cards prepared for certain residences in certain select West End streets—"A LADY is missing in this house——"—New Statesman.

Older Generals Wanted.

The Allies just now could do with [illegible] "old Generals" and Staff College graduates like Lord French and Generals Plumer and Smith Dorrien, especially if, as I [illegible] believe, the next few months will witness through the initiative of either [illegible] the other (it should be through the Allies' initiative) a return to the war [illegible] Neither the French nor the German war employment to Generals under [illegible] Professor Gerothwohl in Dundee Advertiser.

Should a Woman Tell?

Popular resentment has been [illegible] by the condition on the new [illegible] every member of a household [illegible] or her exact age and date of birth [illegible] beyond a certain age are especially [illegible] at having to disclose a secret [illegible] withhold from their dearest [illegible] would be bad enough if the confession [illegible] be made to an impersonal [illegible] Government Department, but the [illegible] of this sacred confidence is the [illegible]—Outlook.

ERMANY AS I LEFT IT.

BREAD AND PEACE RIOTS THROUGHOUT THE FATHERLAND.

By T. B. DICKINSON, D.L.I., Escaped Prisoner of War.

(EXCLUSIVE TO "THE POST SUNDAY SPECIAL.")

Private T. B. Dickinson, Durham Light Infantry, the writer of the following article, is the son of Police-Superintendent Dickinson, of Appleby, Westmorland. He was captured by the Germans on April 25, 1915, and during his internment travelled extensively throughout Westphalia and Rhineland, the two great manufacturing areas of Germany. Being able to speak the Teutonic language fluently, Pte. Dickinson frequently acted as interpreter, and came into contact with many German civilians, from whom he received reliable information as to the actual conditions prevalent in the Fatherland.

OR about three months prior to my escape from Germany, on the third ek of October of this year, the vast jority of the Huns in civil life knew the ue meaning of hunger.

They were then tried as they had never viously been since the dawn of the "The y," for which their military leaders had med and prepared for a generation. And art to express the honest conviction right e that had the discontent which raged in ctically every city of the land been or-nised—instead of isolated—red revolution uld have run amuck within the realms of War Lord.

The trouble was at its height in August, en potatoes and bread were mainly pro-ent by their absence, and the harvest d not yet been garnered. At that time I s confined in the internment camp at rgsteinfurt in Westphalia. I could speak rman fluently, and generally acted as in-preter in the camp. My duties fre-ently brought me into contact with the rman officials, and I generally spent an ur or two each day doing clerical work in e office of the officer in charge of the mp.

It was because of these facts that I ob-ned the information which I now purpose disclose. I was seated in the office one y in August when a sentry entered. ecenisemp was his name, and he had re-rned to report himself for duty after a ek's leave.

Degenisemp wore a very solemn look, ich led one of the Germans to pass the mark that his holiday did not seem to ve done him much good.

"I am sick both in body and soul," re-ed Degenisemp, and then he proceeded to lain that he had spent his leave in his ve city of Hamburg.

"For Bread and Peace."

Degenisemp and his comrades apparently ot all about my presence, or my ability understand the German language. At rate, they spoke quite freely, and the lowing is a truthful summary of what the amburger said:—

"On the second day of my visit home," ntinued Degenisemp, "a most horrible ir occurred, and one that I shall never get. A mob of over three thousand tizens paraded the main streets shouting bread and for peace, and finally they ade tracks for the City Hall, and clam-red to see the Burgomeister. The latter, wever, refused to parley with the mal-contents.

Instead, he telephoned for the military, d a few minutes later the soldiers arrived, d immediately commenced firing into the k of the crowd. It was a terrible scene hich I partly witnessed from a side street. ny of the rioters, with foolish bravery, ed the soldiers, and fought to the last.

"When it was over the dead numbered ween three and four hundred, and the al of the wounded was fully one thousand. omen and even children were among the ims, and the streets adjoining the City ll presented the appearance of a battle-ld. The sight turned me sick."

Degenisemp paused at this stage of his rative, and the tears streamed down his eks as, in a trembling tone of voice, he ded, "Hamburg was like a suburb of ll that day."

"And what do you think that Burgo-ster did?" queried Dengenisemp of his ends. They professed ignorance, and he d, "On the following day he issued a clamation announcing that the citizens Hamburg, as a punishment for the riot-s, were to receive no bread allowance for e days. This action, the proclamation claimed, was to ensure discipline in future."

What Germany Requires.

About this time I gathered from the talk various sentries that riots of a similar acter were taking place all over the ntland. Reports of the more serious ese affairs did not appear in the German wspapers, but they were circulated in , and made it evident that the morale the city dwellers was at the breaking nt.

In order to stem the tide of discontent, newspapers dwelt at great length upon prospects of an early peace with Russia. ers were also put up all over the es, and two of these I had a personal rtunity of studying.

e first to which I shall refer bore a ng picture of the mailed fist, beneath h in bold type was printed the message, only way to secure a satisfactory is to continue the war. Do not ible; be patriotic."

e other poster was called a peace pro-ation.

On the left side was the heading, "What the Enemy Requires," and directly, in tabulated form, appeared the alleged demands of the Allies for a settlement of the war. These conditions included the supremacy of the sea, the practical extinction of German commerce, the confiscation of the German colonies, the breaking up of the German Empire, the restoration of Belgium and other occupied territories, and an indemnity if at least 5,000,000,000 marks. "This would mean slavery for all Germans," concluded this portion of the poster.

On the right side, under the heading, "What Germany Requires," were set forth as the only possible peace conditions the freedom of the seas, absolute control of Belgium and Poland, the occupation of Antwerp and other seaport towns of Belgium, restoration of the German colonies, and a large indemnity.

These posters, I may add, failed to raise the fighting spirit of the Huns. Every German to whom I spoke—and my acquaintances included a few of the sentries and a number of the farmers and peasants resident in the neighbourhood—longed for the end of the war at the earliest possible moment. They frankly confessed to me that Germany could never gain a decisive victory over the Allies. At the same time, they did not believe that the Fatherland could ever go down to utter defeat.

Money That Is Useless.

But for the supplies that the British prisoners of war received from the old country they must have died of starvation. The stuff provided by the Germans as food was not fit for pigs, merely consisting, as it did, of watery soup and an occasional bit of sour black bread.

The German sentries in charge of us were also hard put to it to retain sufficient strength for the performance of their duties. One of these men with whom I became friendly was Josef Schnuff, a young and wealthy artist, whose pictures had created quite a flutter in Berlin prior to the war. Schnuff, on more than one occasion, confessed to me that he was slowly dying of starvation, and his hollow cheeks and emaciated frame formed powerful testimony to the truth of the statement.

"I have plenty of money," Schnuff used to say, "but it cannot purchase for me the sustaining food I so urgently require."

In the course of these three desperate months I can confidently assert that there were only two classes of Germans who did not feel the severe pinch of want. These were the soldiers on active service at the front, and the farmers and their families. I met a number of soldiers on furlough, and heard them talk, and they always admitted that, when the guns of the enemy permitted, there was always plenty of food in the front line.

As for the farmers, I can speak from personal experience. During that same month of August, when Germans living in cities were on the verge of starvation, I was sent out to work for a farmer who was threshing. I could scarcely believe the evidence of my own eyes when on the first morning I received for breakfast bacon and one egg. It was the first egg I had tasted in the Fatherland. There were also provided light brown bread, black bread known as pumpernickel, butter, and coffee. And I was given permission to eat as much as I wanted. It was a heavenly meal.

For dinner I had potatoes, nearly new, a fairly large piece of meat, milk pudding, and stewed apples. At 4.30 I was treated to bread and butter, cheese, and coffee; and, to crown all, on finishing work at seven o'clock in the evening, I was served with another dinner the facsimile of the one I had had at noon.

I worked at five or six farms, and the food was splended and plentiful, and it did not take me long to ascertain that, whoever might die of starvation in Germany, it would not be the average German farmer, who has stores carefully concealed from the prying eyes of the Government inspectors.

A serious epidemic of dysentery broke out in the Fatherland towards the end of August, and carried off thousands of victims. I caught it, and was in hospital for three weeks. The doctor who attended me stated that the prevalence of the disease was due to the eating of new potatoes whose cultivation had been forced by chemical manures. There was a serious shortage of opium for contending with the disease, and this resulted in the swelling of the death-roll. Ten of the sentries at Burgsteinfurt succumbed, as did also a number of the French prisoners.

"Fed Up" With the War.

After escaping into Holland, I met a Bolivian who was in quarantine with me at the camp at Enchede. This man told me that in January of this year he had entered Germany as a neutral with about £1000 worth of German money in his possession. He had been on a sight-seeing tour, and was provided with passports.

The Bolivian travelled extensively all over the country, and he had emphatically reached the conclusion that throughout the summer and early autumn the food shortage in Germany had been appalling. "There were cities I visited where I found it impossible to buy sufficient food for the preservation of life," he said, adding, "I never saw a fat German. The workers are thin and sickly, and sudden deaths from weakness due to want of food are of frequent occurrence. I had to leave the country because my money could not buy me food."

I had personal evidence of the truth of the Bolivian's assertions at Munster and Dusseldorf, where I was employed at intervals. The women and children used to come round the camp begging for a bowlful of soup. I saw the civilians on the streets of these cities, and a more attenuated lot of men and women I never cast eyes on.

Leather and soap cannot be bought for love or money, and the substitutes in the shape of wooden sabots, paper boots, and what is termed "war soap," are far from satisfactory.

I cannot conclude, however, without making mention of the fact that German civilians are confident that next year the food situation will be greatly improved. The story is being sedulously spread about that the captured Roumanian crops have been preserved for seeding purposes, and the Kaiser's minions fondly expect that never again will they be forced to undergo the horrors of the past summer and autumn.

And it should not be forgotten that the Huns are buoyed up by the belief that the people of Great Britain are also starving, and that our condition is actually worse than theirs. They have visions of British towns wrecked by their airmen, of our shores girt by an unbroken circle of U boats, and of a population emaciated in body and broken in spirit.

It is also probable that the Italian reverse may have somewhat lightened the cloud of gloom under which the Germans live, but of this I am convinced—they are all "fed up" with the war.

ESCAPED FROM GERMANY.

BANNOCKBURN MAN'S 140 MILES' JOURNEY.

Bannockburn, Saturday.

Lance-Corporal Thomas Hanlin, Royal Warwickshires, and formerly of the Highland Cyclist Battalion, has made a daring escape from Germany. Lance-Corporal Hanlin belongs to Bannockburn, and was wounded and taken prisoner at Armentieres on 19th July, 1916.

After spending five months in hospital he was set to farm work in Prussia, but his strength proved unequal to this, and he was sent back to camp at Dulmen Lager, Westphalia. He was working on a railway when he made his escape on 29th September, 1917, in company with two Australians. The adventurous trio travelled across Germany for nine nights, arriving on the Dutch frontier on 9th October, after having walked about 140 miles across country. They crossed the border unmolested by the German sentries, who had taken cover owing to a downfall of rain.

Lance-Corporal Hanlin is now spending two months' furlough at his home, Nicol Cottage, Bannockburn. He was formerly in the employment of the Alloa Coal Coy. as a miner.

ARRESTED WHEN THREE HOURS ABSENT.

Naval Lads Miss Train at Airdrie.

Airdrie, Saturday.

A lad named Peter Donnelly, who was on leave from the naval camp at Blandford, was brought before Judge Lewis in the Burgh Court to-day, charged with being absent without leave from the Reserve Battalion, R.N.D.

The Fiscal—Were you absent without leave?

Accused—No, I had leave. I just missed my train.

Accused's father explained that the boy had sprained his foot, and was not three hours absent when a policeman came up and arrested him. He enlisted voluntarily when he was 16, and he is now about 19.

The Fiscal suggested getting the Chief Constable to write an explanatory letter to the naval authorities so that the lad might be leniently dealt with.

The Judge—Do you know any officers or men from Airdrie in the Blandford Camp?

Accused—Yes, I know Sub-Lieutenant Lewis (son of the Judge). I am in his battalion.

Judge Lewis then arranged with the Fiscal to telegraph to the naval authorities to allow the lad to return on his own recognisances by the first train if an escort had not yet started from Blandford, and in any case to allow him liberty till the escort came on Monday.

Another lad, named James Shearer, who had come off on leave with Donnelly, was similarly dealt with.

OUR £500 REWARD.

AS already announced, "The Post Sunday Special" offers £500 reward for definite information that will lead to the conviction in a Court of Justice of any person or persons acting as paid agents of any enemy Power, and as such engaged in any illegal act or conspiracy in this country against the interests of the realm. All information must be communicated confidentially in the first instance to the Editor of "The Post Sunday Special." The Reward will be paid immediately the first conviction is secured under the conditions described. The Editor reserves to himself the right of determining any point arising in connection with the Reward, and all information must be communicated on the understanding that his decision will be final. No Government, secret service, or police official is eligible for this Reward.

GERMANY AS I LEFT IT—Continued.

GERMANY'S PAPER BULLETS.

THREATS IN THE WEST—BLUFF OR DESPERATION?

By GUY L'ESTRANGE.

(OVER "POST" SPECIAL WIRE.)

London, Saturday Night.

THE inevitable winter lull shows some signs of settling down on the Western front. There has been some stiff fighting at Bullecourt, and the enemy have been feeling our lines spasmodically at Ypres and in other sectors. There have been, however, no operations of outstanding importance to record, and public interest has been largely concentrated on the painful efforts the Russians are making to arrange an armistice with the foe.

But though there is a relative calm on all fronts the Germans do not cease bombarding us with paper bullets. If we were to believe half that appears in the enemy's newspapers, or half we read in the sensational press in our own country, we should be led to the conclusion that Von Hindenburg is preparing an offensive on a gigantic scale on the Western front. It may be, of course, that all this screaming is designed to cover preparations for a blow at Salonika or in some other subsidiary theatre of the war. Or it may be that the Kaiser is enacting afresh his old role of the Fat Boy of Europe, with the double object of making our flesh creep and of cheering his own people.

One thing is perfectly certain. If all this grandiose talk about a great blow in the West is not bluff, and really reflects the enemy's intentions, we are perfectly justified is assuming that it augurs a very desperate situation in Germany itself. For in a war of this kind a wise commander does not set out in mid-winter on a great campaign to secure a military decision.

The movement of troops on a great scale from East to West need not necessarily be wholly offensive in its character. It is sometimes forgotten that our tank victory on November 20 taught Von Hindenburg a very serious lesson. Previously he had been content to hold his line in the West with comparatively light forces. He relied on receiving due warning of any big offensive from the prolonged artillery bombardment which was regarded as a necessary preliminary to an infantry advance. Such bombardments broke up the wire entanglements and wrecked elaborate trench works, but they also gave the enemy due warning of what was impending, and enabled him to rush down reinforcements to the threatened sector. The tanks on November 20 put a new aspect on trench warfare, and showed that even the famous Hindenburg Line was vulnerable unless it was defended by adequate forces.

Difficulties of Winter Campaigning.

Many writers have assumed that the enemy's intention is to endeavour to obtain a military decision in France before American aid in the war becomes really effective, and while Germany has nothing to fear from Russia in the East. The theory is plausible enough, but unless all our estimates of Germany's declining man-power have been utterly wrong, such a plan argues an element of desperation in the position of the Central Empires.

For no commander would lightly embark at this season of the year on a great winter campaign. It may be, and probably is, the case that the Germans' plans have been exaggerated. We hear of great artillery and aerial activity in various sectors of the British front—at Passchendaele, along the Scarpe Valley, and at Cambrai.

It is suggested that the aerial demonstration is designed to prevent our flying men from observing the enemy's dispositions. But there must be a good deal of bluff about all this. Those who predict a German attempt to recover the Passchendaele Ridge, and to recover the lost ground along the valley of the Scarpe, show little appreciation of the condition of the ground.

For what reason did we suspend our operations on the Flanders front just when we were in sight of reaping the fruits of a long series of successes, and when we were within measurable distance of clearing the enemy out of the Belgian coast and from a big slice of Western Belgium?

It was not shortage of men. It was not because our munition reserves had run dry, or because we had not an adequate concentration of guns to blast a way through to Roulers. It was because the break up of the weather and the liquid state of the ground made further progress impossible.

Men were sinking to their waists in a morass of mud, from which often enough it was impossible to extricate them. The plight of the Germans to the east of the ridge is still worse. And yet we have this tall talk of an attempt in mid-winter to recover the high ground round and about Passchendaele.

The Problem of the Mud.

It is to be feared that many people, when they read of our men going "over the top," conjure up in imagination a wild skelter across No Man's Land in the face of a hail of bullets and bursting shrapnel, and a lightning seizure of the trenches the troops are set to capture.

This sort of thing may be possible on comparatively dry ground, like that at Cambrai, but the reality is very different when it comes to fighting in the mud.

The hail of bullets is there all right, but the progress across that terrible area of No Man's Land is painful in the extreme. Everyone now is familiar with the tactics adopted of laying down a barrage in front of the men as they advance. But what is not so generally known is that this barrage creeps forward in some instances at a rate of only one hundred yards in eight or ten minutes, that being the time required to enable the men to struggle through a bare hundred yards of mud.

These facts are set down to demonstrate the utter impossibility of the Germans entertaining the ambitious dreams which are attributed to them in some quarters. And what is true of the Passchendaele area applies with almost equal strength to the conditions prevailing along the Scarpe Valley.

And if, as a result of the summer campaign, we have made no marked progress on the Western front, if progress is reckoned by kilometres, it is nevertheless a fact that we now control most of the high ground between the sea and St Quentin. The enemy can move hardly anywhere without Sir Douglas Haig being early apprised of any concentration that may be taking place.

The position is somewhat different on the Cambrai front. There, as we know, the ground is comparatively dry, and there is great temptation to the enemy to attempt to close up the gap that General Byng has driven through the famous Hindenburg Line.

But the positions to which we have fallen back since our evacuation of the Bourlon Wood salient are positions of great strength. Into the circumstances attending the retirement at Bourlon Wood it is not desirable to enter at present. On the southern front of the salient our men seem to have been taken completely by surprise, and from all outward appearances there was some serious bungling somewhere.

But the information at present available is not sufficient to enable us to form any reliable judgment on the matter. Doubtless there will be a searching inquiry, and pending this the least said about the subject the better. What we are concerned with is the position resulting from the retirement.

Happily this is a very strong one. The Hindenburg Line remains in our hands, and our men are entrenched in the reserve positions prepared by the enemy during months of painful effort immediately to the east of that line. The Germans, therefore, knowing the strength of the defensive system they created themselves, may well hesitate to pour out more valuable lives on the Cambrai front.

Jerusalem.

The outstanding event of the week has been the surrender of Jerusalem to General Allenby's victorious army. It would be easy to exaggerate the military significance of this success, but not easy to exaggerate its political importance. Germany's military prestige, no less than the prestige of the Turkish Army, has suffered a great moral blow.

In Constantinople the news of the fall of the Holy City may have far-reaching consequences. It is the worst intelligence that has reached the Ottoman Government since General Maude's capture of Bagdad. And Constantinople will not fail to take note of the fact that Germany's military resources were not sufficient to enable the Kaiser to send enough troops to General Falkenhayn at Aleppo to hold up the relatively small army under General Allenby's command.

The Turkish Government have good reason to complain of the selfish military policy Berlin is pursuing. There will, moreover, be a natural disposition to compare promises with performance. Not very long ago everyone was talking of the great preparations Germany was making to assist Turkey in recovering Bagdad. Self-interest, no less than loyalty to a hard-pressed Ally, dictated a big campaign with this object in view.

For Bagdad represents the end of the corridor to the East on which the Pan-Germans set such store. But Bagdad still remains in British hands, and one may venture the suspicion that the urgent necessity of throwing every available man into the Western theatre of the war to stem the British advance has been mainly responsible for the disappointment of Turkish hopes in this particular. Turkey might have borne up under this failure, but what will she say now when she sees the British flag flying over Jerusalem as well as over Bagdad?

It will be argued, of course, that from the military point of view Jerusalem is still a long way from Damascus or Aleppo. That is true enough. But Jerusalem stands for much in Turkish eyes, and if it be true that the Ottoman Government has long been contemplating the conclusion of a separate peace, this last disaster may well bring Turkish relations with the Central Empires still nearer to a breaking point.

There are other aspects of General Allenby's success which should not be ignored. The fall of Jerusalem will evoke a responsive thrill from the Polish and Russian peasantry, and the disinclination that is slowly manifesting itself in Russia against a separate peace with the enemy may well receive a great impetus from this good news from Palestine.

Last, but not least, the effect upon the Vatican is a factor of considerable importance. The Pope has for some time past manifested considerable sympathy with the Austro-German efforts to bring about a peace conference.

The Vatican is presumably acquainted with the terms on which Germany is prepared to converse with the Entente Powers. To these terms must now be added, if Germany hopes to keep the Ottoman Government by her side, demands for the return of Jerusalem to the Turks. In Palestine no one can accuse the British Government of seeking any material gains, and it is almost inconceivable that the Vatican can give any support to a demand that Jerusalem should be handed back to the Turk.

Adam Stone Hears Welcome News.

MAN PROPOSES

By ANDREW SOUTAR

The Beginning of the Story.

"You are leaving prison to-day!" the governor tells James Arling, the ex-bank clerk.

There had been a miscarriage of justice—a woman had confessed to the affair at the bank for which he was sentenced.

Arling's one aim in life is to have revenge on the men who had ruined his career. He changes his name to Adam Stone, and a few years later becomes partner in a great engineering company.

Stone forms an organisation of expert detectives to search for his daughter Joan, now nine years of age, who, he learns, is travelling the country with an old musician. Joan and a little companion named Tony escape from the grip of an interfering busybody—Lady Shinmoss—and find refuge with the cook and butler at a large house.

The bank robbery was the joint work of Bikkersaffe, the cashier, and two men named Darrell and Weerd. Later, Weerd receives six months' imprisonment for theft. Stone interviews Weerd in prison, but is unable to obtain any helpful information.

Stone meets Madame Poillard, a woman of extraordinary beauty, and discovers that she is the companion of Darrell, known to his associates as The Lynx. He invites her to his house, the Wilderness, and informs her that a collector of precious stones, named Kerski, is coming to consult him about the purchase of two strings of rubies.

Rubies—and Other Things.

MARIETTA handed back the letter. "Rubies!" she said with a sigh. "I love rubies."

Adam Stone said rather sadly—"There is only one ruby in life for which my heart yearns."

And she only thought that he looked at her with wistfulness in his eyes. The thought was wrongly conceived.

They had tea downstairs, and towards the end a grave-faced servant brought the announcement that M. Kerski had arrived.

Adam Stone said curtly, "Show him into the study. I will see him presently."

He looked at Marietta.

"Will you forgive me?" he began.

Marietta's face was still calm, and there was no outward sign of the excitement that thrilled her body.

"I love rubies," she repeated. "May I see them?"

"If you wish," he said courteously. "Will you come to the study?"

She followed him with alacrity, and as they entered the study a dark-complexioned man rose from the chair which had been placed for him, and bowed ostentatiously. Adam Stone looked at him for a minute, then said, with so much gravity that Marietta gave a little start—

"You are Monsieur Kerski? I received your letter, but may I suggest that it is rather a risky thing to do—bringing these jewels across country without taking any precaution. In fact, my secretary tells me that you showed them to him only yesterday."

Kerski smiled in a self-satisfied manner.

"I have been selling jewels too long, Mr Stone," he said, "to be easily fooled."

As he was speaking he took from his pocket a black, oblong box; then he began to expatiate on the wondrous beauty of the stones which he had to sell.

Adam Stone watched him with a certain indifference on his features.

"Rubies," he said, "do not interest me very much; but I will willingly see what you have there."

The box was opened. Kerski stepped back from the table to await the outburst of admiration.

Only Marietta spoke.

"How lovely!" she cried in an ecstasy.

There were, probably, forty rubies, and Kerski had unstrung them, so that a prospective purchaser might make a selection to complete one string.

"Lovely!" she repeated again and again.

Adam Stone smiled indulgently. Then to Kerski he said, "And what's the price?"

"For all of them?" Kerski was rubbing his hands anticipatorily. "Fifteen thousand."

"So much!" Adam Stone shook his head. "No, no, my dear Kerski. They may be very good stones, but I don't make fifteen thousand so easily that I can afford to pay your price."

Marietta was breathing heavily; there was a pleading look in her eyes. With a smile on his handsome face, Adam Stone reached to the box and selected the largest stone. Without inquiring of Kerski the price, he said—

"I will take this one." Then he turned to Marietta. "How it would become you," he said, "if it were set in a pendant! Will you accept it?"

She gave a cry of delight.

In truth, the stone was a perfect specimen. She went to the window to examine it, to let the sunlight dwell upon it, and bring out all its beauty.

Meanwhile M. Kerski was refastening the black oblong box.

"I will send you a cheque," said Adam Stone; "or, better still, I will give it to you now. Are you staying in town, M. Kerski?"

"Only for two nights," was the reply, followed by that sibilant sound which your native of the tropics cannot live without.

"You have other appointments, I suppose?"

"No," said Kerski. "I am going to the north of England in three days' time. I am to see a very wealthy gentleman in Carlisle. He is coming there to meet me. I think he will meet an American heiress."

Adam Stone might have forgotten the presence of Marietta; she was still standing at the window, examining the stone which he had given her.

"What precautions are you taking?" he asked Kerski. "If I were you, I should place those stones in a strong room. I know London better than you, my friend, and it would disturb me if I learned that because of your visit to me you had been victimised."

M. Kerski laughed again.

"I am not a child," he said. "Oh, no! I stay at the Belsteen Hotel to-night, and, if you like, I will come for the cheque to-morrow."

"No, no," said Adam Stone, "I will give it you now."

He went to his desk to look for a cheque-book, and snapped his fingers angrily because it was not there.

"Will you forgive me, Madame Poillard?" Then to Kerski—"If you will come downstairs for one moment to the smokeroom I will write it out for you. I remember that I was signing cheques this morning."

Marietta inclined her head graciously, and Adam Stone and Kerski, who had placed the jewels in his pocket, left the room.

Two minutes; then she moved noiselessly to the telephone on the desk. She asked the exchange for a number, but the message she conveyed across the wires was in code.

She went back to the window very happy.

When Adam Stone returned, apologetic because of the long absence, she held out her hand to him, saying—

"My dear Mistaire Stone, there's no need to apologise. How can I thank you for this wonderful gift?"

He held her hand, and looked steadily into her eyes.

"By forgiving me," he said, "if I hurry you away. I find I cannot accompany you back to town. I have an important engagement within the next half-hour."

"La! La!" said Marietta. "Don't disturb yourself. I have enjoyed myself immensely. I will go now."

"We shall meet again?" as he bowed.

"I hope so, Mistaire Adam Stone."

He accompanied her downstairs, and handed her into the car.

And before the car had disappeared from the drive, he raced back to the study and rang the bell. Blaker, who had been watching through a hole in the wall, came in.

"Well, what did you find out? What did you overhear?"

"She telephoned, sir."

"The number—did you get it?"

"Yes. The message was in code."

"Quick, then," said Adam Stone, "don't lose a second. Trace the number and keep watch. I will wait here."

And as Blaker hurried out of the room Adam Stone sat down at the desk and clenched his hands.

"Have I got you, Charles Darrell?" he said. "Have I trapped you at last? Has God given you into my hands for robbing me of happiness?"

Tally Ho!

An hour passed—an hour that seemed to stretch itself into a year. Adam Stone paced the floor of the study, turning again and again to glance at the telephone, as though he half expected it to speak to him and tell him that Blaker had won.

But Blaker did not telephone; he came by car, and there was disappointment on his face.

Adam Stone hurried towards him as he entered the study.

"Well?"

"We traced the number which she gave to the exchange operator."

"Hurry, man!"

"It was only a greengrocer's shop, kept by an Italian."

"Beaten again."

"No, sir. We have still the alternative."

"The hotel? Good. Bring the men in."

Blaker hurried out, to return at the end of five minutes with six men—and surely the last six men in the world that the ordinary mind would credit with brains!

Youth and age and infirmity! There was a cripple among them; one man was so old that he coughed when he tried to breathe, and his knees doubled under him as he came across the floor to the master. One man had his left arm in a sling; another was so thin that he could not have been expected to retain his hold of a schoolboy caught in the act of orchard pilfering.

And yet each one straightened himself as he came to the desk and faced the white-haired man, whose cheeks had lost their colour, whose lips twitched continually with half-suppressed excitement.

"Close the door, Blaker." Adam Stone's voice was unnaturally harsh. "Gentlemen, the fox has gone to ground, but I think that we have got him. Listen carefully. Our friend Kerski, whom you know as Jaffers, has taken a room at the Belsteen Hotel, in Grosvenor Market. He has with him the rubies which this man who is known as The Lynx will endeavour to steal. Blaker will have explained to you that the woman communicated with him, through the agency of a greengrocer's shop. Never mind. We must rely on the hotel, and what may take place there. Are you listening?"

"Intently, sir," in chorus.

"Blaker will engage rooms for you in the corridor selected by Kerski. There is only one door opening into his room, and whoever enters it will have to come along the corridor. You, Martins, will have the room on the left of Kerski's; you, Timmins, will be on the right; the others will be in rooms on the other side of the corridor—all surrounding the door of Kerski's room. That's clear?"

"Perfectly, sir."

"Good! I shall rely on you not to bungle this affair. You must make no mistake. You must wait until Kerski calls for help; he has been instructed. You must make no move until this man, The Lynx, is actually in the room. Kerski will be standing behind the door, and the probability is that he will leap on his man before the door is closed. You should be ready to follow The Lynx in. Do not give him a chance to call out; he is cunning, and may protest that he had simply made a mistake in the number of his room. The manager of the hotel would be compelled to call in the police to listen to his story. And we do not want the interference of the police this time."

"No, sir."

"The Lynx must be brought downstairs after you have gagged him; I leave to you the method of getting him out of the hotel without attracting attention."

He dropped the receiver and rang for a servant. The door opened, and the servant raised a hand in alarm, for Adam Stone was dashing here and there like one possessed.

"I want a fast car, at once."

"It is waiting at the door, sir."

"Not that one—the White Wings. How far is it to the Red Grange?"

"Thirty miles, sir."

"I must be there inside the hour."

"But the car at the door?"

"Burn it, sell it—anything you like. Obey my orders."

"And Mr Blaker?"

"Instruct him to carry out the work in hand without my assistance. I'm going to the Red Grange. I'll ring up from there. Oh, God! Is it really my child—my Joan?"

The servant left him, and was gone only a few minutes. Then——

"The car is ready, sir. Mitchell is driving."

Adam Stone hurried down the stairs. Mitchell, the most experienced driver in the country, held open the door.

"The Red Grange, Mitchell. And five pounds to you for every minute under the hour. Joan! Oh, Ruth! Our child!"

The grand old man with the cough—and muscles as strong as steel bands!—bowed his head and smiled grimly. Adam Stone was pacing to and fro as he rattled out his instructions. His nerves were on razor-edge; his hands were working as though they were feeling for the throat of the man who had broken his life.

"Bear in mind that the police must be kept out of the way. Even if one should interfere—and you know what these police are if they think there is a chance of promotion—use every endeavour to put him off the scent. Should you fail in that, take him aside—let Martins do it—and make it worth his while to keep clear. I want The Lynx in this house. I want to be alone with him." His voice throbbed with passion. "Now, to your duties. I will be outside with the car. You know the hotel? There is a side entrance from Murgot Street—a quiet, deserted street. Bring your man down the stairs from the fifth floor, turn to the left when you come to the third floor, avoiding the principal stairway. There is an emergency staircase on the left, and I shall have arranged for the door to be open. Are you following me?"

"Closely, sir," said the old man, speaking for the others.

"If the woman should be there, one of you must take charge of her; lead her away—do anything but allow her to guess at the real business in hand. I do not want the woman. I am not making war on women!"

"Skrigman will take charge of the woman if she should be there," said the old man, and fixed the cripple with his eye. The cripple was as strong and healthy as any of the others.

"Thank you." Adam Stone commenced again his restless pacing of the study. "When we get him into the car, you Martins, will sit with the driver; Baston and Heath will be inside. The Lynx must be blindfolded, and I—I shall not appear as I am now. Rely on the spoken word, 'Wilder.' When we reach the Wilderness each of you will take up your position. Martins, see that the tunnel to the underground room is clear. We will keep The Lynx in confinement for the night."

"I have personally superintended the arrangements," said Martins.

"Then, away," said Adam Stone. "Kerski has already gone to the hotel. You will find that the rooms I desire you to take have been allotted to you. Remember that this means everything to me."

They inclined their heads. Within a few minutes they were on their way to the rendezvous. They were moving there about the time The Lynx was making his arrangements for a coup that would take him and Marietta to France until he could think out some new scheme of fraud.

"Marietta! What should I do without you?"

"You will be careful, my Charles?"

"You shall be in my thoughts the whole of the while. That will make me careful."

"My darling!"

"You are certain of your facts? You saw the rubies?"

"Look, my Charles," as she showed him the one that had been selected by Adam Stone. "Is not that perfect?"

"Perfect," he said, as he examined the jewel.

"You are going to work alone?" fearfully.

"Certainly," he said. "We cannot afford to pay for the services of the 'boys.'"

And in the study at the Wilderness Adam Stone, now alone with his thoughts, fought for control of himself. He had ordered the car—a closed one; in his pocket was a revolver (The Lynx was too dangerous a customer to play with, and he badly wanted The Lynx in the Wilderness).

The time slipped by; he was watching the ormolu clock on the mantel shelf as though the movement of the hands was a signal. Half an hour—ten minutes. The car was at the door. He drew on his light overcoat and walked to the door of the study.

"Now, Charles Darrell," he muttered. "Wits against wits. The hour of judgment is at hand."

It was then that the telephone bell rang—

"Yes—yes."

Only a tapping sound on the transmitter at the other end!

Adam Stone trembled with apprehension.

"Yes, Jonson?"

"Speaking from the Red Grange, sir (it was one of Adam Stone's many houses). We have here two children—one named Joan. She answers the description."

"Keep her there," almost screamed the white-haired man. "My God! Can it be true? Is it my child? . . . How old is she, Johnson?"

"A little over nine, I should say, sir. God grant that it is your child!"

"Jonson! Jonson! Don't let her out of your sight."

"Not for a second, sir!"

"And be careful not to say a word about me. There are reasons, Jonson — strong reasons why she should not be told. A boy! Did you say there was a boy with her?"

"About her own age, sir. They tell a strange tale about an old man——"

"The musician, Jonson. Yes, yes. He will be able to clear up the mystery."

"He is not here, sir. They left him about twenty miles back."

"Go to the children, Jonson. Stay near them. I am coming down."

TO SAVE A CHUM'S LIFE.

In order to save the life of an Australian soldier chum, Private John Hope, Black Watch, has undergone an operation for the transfusion of blood. He belongs to Stenhousemuir.

Number Thirteen.

The Lynx began his adventure about nine o'clock in the evening.

He had telephoned to the Belsteen Hotel, ordering a room in the name of a Midland manufacturer, and he had said it was just possible that he would be unable to arrive in time for dinner. He drew up at the hotel in a taxi-cab, and impressed the hall porter, at least, by instructing him to pay the driver, at the same time giving the man half-a-sovereign.

The Lynx was a vain man, but the reflection that he looked upon in the mirror would have stirred the vanity of most men. Tall, well proportioned, and with all the dignity of an ambassador, he walked to the booking-office and inquired of the young girl there if a room had been placed at his disposal. While she was making the necessary inquiries The Lynx turned over the pages of the visitors' book. Kerski was on the fifth floor, and the number of his room was thirteen. The shadow of annoyance passed over the face of The Lynx. He closed the book and turned again to the pigeon-hole, through which the book-keeper said:—

"There are two rooms vacant, and I am instructed by the manager to offer you the choice of them."

He smiled sweetly upon the girl.

"Whichever you recommend," he said, the old strain of superstition whispering to him that the round-faced, good-looking girl might bring him luck.

She touched the porter's bell, and to the man who came in response said:—

"Show this gentleman the two rooms, fifteen and fifty-six. One is in the west wing, the other in the east."

They went to the west wing first, and the porter opened the gate of the lift. "On the fifth floor, sir," he said by way of explanation.

They reached the corridor. The numbers ran from one to twenty-seven. They passed Kerski's room, but The Lynx did no more than glance at it. On his left two doors were slightly ajar. A less observant man than The Lynx would not have suspected that a man was stationed behind each. But then the training of The Lynx tended to awaken suspicion. He made this mental note—"Kerski is not a fool; he has paid for the services of detectives. Well, well, it will not be the first time that we have played the game of 'Catch me.'"

In a loud voice he said to the porter, "Somewhat near the sky this floor—what?"

The porter grinned. "They're nice rooms in this wing, sir." He opened the door of number fifteen and invited inspection.

The Lynx sauntered lazily to the window and looked out. A narrow courtyard separated the west from what was called the east wing. A footbridge, enclosed and panelled with opaque glass, connected the two blocks.

And the footbridge led from the fifth floor, the doorway being situated between numbers thirteen and fourteen.

"What's the distance to the ground?" asked the Lynx amusedly.

"Matter of eighty feet, sir," said the porter.

"Ah!" The Lynx was looking out of the window; he drew in his head and closed the sash.

"If one dropped to the bottom one might wake up in the morning with a nasty headache. Eh, porter?"

"I don't think," said the porter.

They returned to the corridor, and—it may have been without significance—The Lynx spoke rather loudly.

"I think I should prefer the other block, porter; and I believe the room is on a lower floor?"

"On the fourth, sir."

"That will suit me admirably. I am staying only one night—must catch the boat train first thing to-morrow morning."

"Yes, sir."

They crossed the footbridge to the other block, and three doors in the corridor they had just left opened simultaneously. Blaker, the leader, pressed a finger to his nose. He believed The Lynx suspected danger, and had tried to throw them off the scent. He would take number fifteen.

Blaker was wrong. The Lynx was not going to bungle the affair. He needed those rubies, or rather their value, as badly as a thirsty man in the desert needed a glassful of water. He inspected the bedroom number fifty-six in the other block. The window faced the window of Kerski's bedroom, only it was on a lower floor. The only means of reaching that west block was by the footbridge. And this way was lit up during the whole of the night, so that anyone passing along it would be silhouetted against the glass panels.

"I will take this room," said The Lynx, "and I will instruct the book-keeper." He pressed a coin into the hand of the porter, returned to the hall, intimated his and went to the billiard-room, w played a game of snooker-pool wi other men, and managed to mak penses.

Another instalment of this st appear next week. Do not miss it

Infant Welfare

Important to Parents.

The following statements about Savory & Moore's Food represent the opinions of those who have used it for many years and may therefore be thoroughly relied upon:—

It often proves to be the only food a delicate child can take.

It is more easily digested and more nourishing than milk and water alone.

The child is satisfied and begins to improve from the very first meal given.

It regulates the bowels and brings freedom from Constipation (about 5 per cent. of the evidence bears out this statement).

It brings contentment and quiet nights for Mother, Father, and Baby alike.

The healthy, happy appearance of the child reared on it always prompts the question "What is baby fed on?"

Messrs. Savory & Moore are making a special offer of a FREE TRIAL TIN of their Food, which will be sent on receipt of the coupon below, with 2d in stamps for postage. This tin contains sufficient for a thorough trial. Send at once.

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To Savory & Moore Ltd Chemists to The King, New Bond St. London. Please send me the Free Trial Tin of your Food. I enclose 2d for postage.

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"Fifteen Years Cured."

On July 10th, 1901, Mr J. Baxter, of 33 Greenside Street, Alloa, said:—"After I had recovered from rheumatic fever, which had laid me up for five months, I was left with kidney trouble. I thought I should have to take to my bed again, for I was in such agony. The constant pain reduced me to a weak and feeble condition; the action of the bladder was irregular and the kidney excretions disordered.

"There had been so much talk about Doan's Backache Kidney Pills that I determined to try them. Before half a box had gone my back was considerably better. A short course of the pills set the kidney trouble right, removed the pain from my back entirely, and I was able to get to work again, feeling more fit than I had for long been. (Signed) "J. Baxter."

On August 10th, 1915—*fifteen years after*—Mr Baxter said:—"I am glad to say I still enjoy good health. It is fifteen years since I was cured by Doan's Pills."

A thorough course of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills will remove the excess uric acid and gently heal the kidneys. All dealers, or 2/9 a bottle, from Thomas McClellan Co., 8 Wells St., Oxford St., London, W.1.

Don't ask for backache or kidney pills, ask *distinctly* for *Doan's* Backache Kidney Pills, the same as Mr Baxter had.

PERSONALITIES IN THE LIMELIGHT AND GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

Exclusively Written For "The Post Sunday Special."

nt to Wales.

Lafayette.

Gorebridge is justly proud of Sir Douglas Haig's Mention of the Hon. A. Hore Ruthven, V.C., who has again distinguished himself in action. He comes of a fighting family, which has distinguished itself in rts of the world, and which has members each of whom has won the Although he is now attached to the Guards, he is a Highlander for and has served in two Scottish line nents. Of course, everybody in Scotland heard of his prowess in the hunting field.

Remarkable Coincidence.

Heard the other day of one of the most able coincidences of the war. Three brothers, hailing from the Borders, the services—two in the Navy and in the Army. The latter, crossing channel a few weeks ago, discovered in each of the two destroyers escorting the ship on which he was sailing was of his brothers.

otable Scottish Wedding.

Surgeon Douglas M'Alpine, R.N., brother Mrs Richard Lloyd George, has just married at Helensburgh Miss Elizabeth Meg Bottom, of Castleton, Rochdale. The bridegroom is a son of Mr Robert M'Alpine, the principal of the big firm of Scottish contractors. One of his sisters is a duchess, and the other the Prime Minister's daughter-in-law.

The Old Order Changes.

It is becoming quite the custom now in the Highlands to dispense with the best man and best maid for war weddings. Thus the old order changes even in the remoter parts, where tradition is not easily broken.

Wonderful Stagecraft.

What a pantomime feast to the eye and ear is provided by Messrs Howard & Wyndham at the Glasgow Theatre Royal. One of the scenes, "The Robin's Nest," introduces a wonderful piece of stagecraft. And the girls! There are such stars as Daisy Dormer, Marie Brayman, Morna Magnet, Nora Stockelle, &c.?

A Good "Swig."

Military officers as a rule are punctilious in regard to the respect due to the uniform they wear, but at a boxing tournament the other day I witnessed quite an unusual incident. A captain was acting as referee, and during the interval between two bouts he was handed a bottle, from which he took a good "swig" in full view of the crowd. He then offered a drink to two subaltern friends, but they declined.

Preparing to "Celebrate."

Several of the Clyde coast towns have been raided for supplies of liquor by purchasers from Greenock, Port-Glasgow, Paisley, and Glasgow. The purchases were made in small quantities, but systematically, with the result that quite large supplies were carried away. However, in order to safeguard the coast folks' "Ne'erday," an end has been put by the local spirit merchants to supplying in bulk people not personally known.

Held Reins With His Teeth.

I have heard of a very gallant action performed by a Rothesay officer, Captain A. Reid, R.F.A., in the recent German breakthrough at Cambrai, when the enemy got near our artillery at several places. Although a piece of shell had penetrated his right side, injuring several ribs, and lodged in his right forearm, he rode back over two miles to order up fresh supplies of ammunition, holding the horse's reins with his teeth.

Why?

One grocer in the Dennistoun district of Glasgow is waxing wrath over the distribution, or lack of distribution, of butter, so much so that he has written a letter of complaint to the Food Controller about the enormous quantities of shortbread displayed in the bakers' windows while he cannot get butter nor margarine for his customers' bread. No doubt the official reply will be that the butter or margarine in the shortbread was supplied or on order months before the shortage was felt.

Burns' Songs.

Even in these days of the light, catchy music of revues, the good people of Kilmarnock evidently remain loyal to the songs of the National Bard, who in his day and generation was a well-known figure in the town. I was in Kilmarnock the other day, and within a radius of one hundred yards of the station I heard no fewer than four Burns' songs, sung by three street musicians, while a fourth played sweetly on his violin the haunting melody of "The Bonnie Lass o' Ballochmyle."

A Fighting Scot.

It is nothing new for Major-General Hunter Weston, Ayrshire's M.P., to be mentioned in despatches. He has fought in nearly every part of the globe, and on every occasion has proved himself a doughty Scot He has done most things well, from carrying out cavalry raids to cutting railways, and, despite his absences from Britain, has contrived to become known as a man-about-town. In most of the London clubs he is as well known as he is in West Kilbride, and before the war I used to see him at Hurlingham, where he took an active interest in sport. A broad-shouldered, hefty Scot, he is not broad enough, however, to wear all his decorations at one time, among the latter being the Order of St John of Jerusalem

A 1914 Hero.

The conductor who is touring with "Carminetta," which opens at Dundee next Saturday, is one of the "old contemptibles." He is a skilled musician who was knocked out by a wound in the right forearm. Although the wound has incapacitated him to some extent, he is still able to "carry on" at the piano and in the conductor's chair.

Milk Galore.

Combining amusement with business, two Falkirk gentlemen hied them the other day to the country in quest of some butter for their family larders As regards its main object their mission was fruitless, but in one way it was somewhat eventful. At each of the seven farmhouses which they visited they were politely offered a glass of milk, and this they politely imbibed. They are now "off" the lacteal fluid, and detest even the sight of the cream jug.

That Printer Man Again.

A Scottish authoress who lives in London has had a terrible week. She required a stenographer, and sent in an advertisement to a local paper, stipulating that the applicant must be a girl. Since then all the flappers in the neighbourhood have been round to show her the snapshots they took at the seaside last summer, the pictures of their best boys taken in the back garden, and speaking likenesses of brother Bert and father with his silk hat on Sunday. The compositor mistook stenographer for photographer, and my authoress friend is now on his track, but not with a camera.

A Friend of the Working Classes.

Mrs James Murdoch, of Redhurst, Hamilton, wife of Mr James Murdoch, of the Lanarkshire Miners' Union, besides being a member of the Hamilton Burgh Insurance Committee, is a member of the Administrative Committee of the Hamilton Juvenile Labour Bureau, and also active in the Co-Operative, Housing, and Trade Union movements.

A Case for Inquiry.

An Edinburgh lady writes me in reference to the complaint which a Jock in Mesopotamia voiced in these columns last week about the non-receipt of letters and parcels. She says that since her brother left for the East in March last he has not received any communication from home, although a letter has been written him every week, in addition to parcels sent out at regular intervals. "You can see by this," my correspondent continues, "that the people who have friends in Mesopotamia are not forgetting or neglecting them, but that something must be radically wrong in their delivery. I think it is time some of our officials moved in the matter."

"Quick-Changing" for the Tea.

A Dundee youth recently solved the tea problem for his mother. He entered a certain shop, and purchased a quarter of a pound of tea. A few minutes later he returned to the shop, this time with his overcoat on his arm. The shopkeeper did not recognise him, and allowed him to purchase another quarter of a pound. Again the precocious youth re-entered the shop, this time wearing his cap at a different angle. He secured another quarter of a pound. He tried again, but the shopkeeper recognised him, and the youth had to do the disappearing trick with a vengeance. But he was received with open arms on his return home.

Music-Hall Star to Wed.

Whilst in Edinburgh last week Madame Lian d'Eve, the clever Parisian comedienne, told me a big secret to the effect that she will be married shortly after the New Year Her fiancé is not connected with the stage, and it is not quite settled whether Madame will continue her professional career at the end of her present engagements. The stage would suffer a big loss if she retires. Madame has been a widow for over twenty years. She was only a wife for two months, and was wearing widow's weeds before she was 16. She has a son a captain in the French Flying Corps. She has had many offers in her long widowhood, but until her son was educated and made self-dependant she turned aside resolutely from the idea of marrying again.

J. J. Bell's Latest.

Mr J. J. Bell has sent in a copy of his latest book, "Johnny Pryde," a little volume which is full of Johnny's quaint and pawky sayings. The book is supposed to be writings of Johnny himself, and deals with his experiences as message boy to P. Clark, the village grocer. Many of the sketches are real gems, and, to my mind, the best we have had from Mr Bell since the days of Wee Macgregor.

There's a Lot in this Name.

Miss Lydia Kyasht, the famous Russian dancer, is a bit of a humorist. The other night after several vain attempts on my part to imitate her pronunciation, she gravely remarked, "You have to have a very good dinner before you can pronounce my name." If Sir Arthur Yapp sees this we may hear shortly of a ban on the study of Russian in the interests of food control until after the war!

Alarming the Ladies.

The new declaration forms for the sugar supply are alarming the ladies. One lady in the West End of Glasgow remarked to me the other day, "Fancy all the girls at my grocer's knowing my age. What my age has to do with the sugar supply I do not know. We shall soon have to give the size of the boots we wear or the size of the gloves we take, or even the number of inches we measure round the waist. The whole thing is ridiculous."

Language of New Jerusalem.

A correspondent writes not only endorsing the suggestion that Esperanto is to be the language of the new Jerusalem, but points out that there is Biblical prophecy to support it. In Zephaniah it says, "For then will I turn to the people a pure language that they may call upon the name of the Lord to serve Him with one consent." A pure language, writes my correspondent, is a language with a regular grammar, no exceptions to rules, and embodying the linguistic experience of the peoples of the earth. These things Esperanto does, and Esperanto only.

The Bond of Language.

Speaking of Esperanto, Mr William Page, S.S.C., the secretary of the Edinburgh Association, had a rather interesting experience, showing the wide ramifications of the language. An Australian soldier in the trenches sent him some verses in Esperanto, which he published in one of the official papers. Recently he received a reply from a French soldier from another part of the front into whose hands they had fallen, and in whose heart they had struck a sympathetic chord.

Forthcoming Marriages.

A marriage will shortly take place between G. F. Troup Horne, Inns of Court O.T.C., younger son of the late James Horne and Mrs Horne, of Aberdeen, and Phyllis, only child of the late Charles Henry Ewen and Mrs Ewen, of Ferndown, Dorset.

A marriage has also been arranged between Major Hugh S. Rowan, R.G.A., son of Mr John Rowan, The Croft, Kilmalcolm, Renfrewshire, and Dorothy, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Henry Heath, of Westview, Crewe, and Mrs Heath, of Totley, Sheffield.

LEADING THEATRICAL LIGHTS

APPEARING IN SCOTLAND THIS WEEK.

(1) Maria Minetti, in "Carminetta" at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee. (2) Susie Belmore, in "Dick Whittington" at the Alhambra, Glasgow. (3) Harry Weldon, in "Dick Whittington" at the Alhambra, Glasgow. (4) Madge White, in "Humpty Dumpty" at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. (5) Mona Magnet, in "Cinderella" at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. (6) Fred Duprez, in "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh. (7) Edward Lauri, in "Carminetta" at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee. (8) Veronica Brady, at the King's Theatre, Dundee.

NATIONAL SERVICE.

Whether it be motor driving, mail driving, munitions, or any other kind of war work, the women of to-day are doing National Service.

Many are however, quite unused to the rough work and exposure which war time work necessitates, and all such will find the complexion and hands need special care. Give us a few minutes each day to them. Use OATINE regularly, and war work cannot harm them.

OATINE contains natural oil which nourishes the skin and keeps it soft and clear. It removes dirt and grime from pores which soap and water cannot reach. Prove this yourself.

OATINE is a wonder worker for war workers, and is used by them everywhere.

OATINE can be obtained from all Chemists and Stores and many Drapers, 1/- and 2/3.

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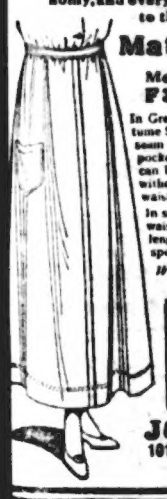

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In stock sizes to fit 26, 28 and 29 ins. waist; 36, 39 and 40 ins. front skirt length. Price 12/6. If made specially to measure. Price 16/6

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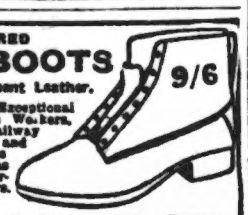

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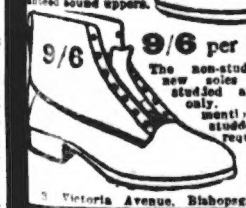

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RANGERS MAKING A BOLD BID FOR THE FLAG

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

RANGERS,	4	FALKIRK,	1
CLYDE,	1	KILMARNOCK,	2
QUEEN'S PARK,	3	THIRD LANARK,	3
AYR UNITED,	0	PARTICK THIS.,	0
CLYDEBANK,	4	ST MIRREN,	1
MORTON,	1	HEARTS,	1
DUMBARTON,	2	AIRDRIEONIANS,	0
HIBERNIAN,	1	HAMILTON ACAS.,	1
MOTHERWELL,	3	CELTIC,	4

WESTERN CUP.

BENTON,	2	DUMBARTON H.,	2
ABERCORN,	2	VALE OF LEVEN,	1
STEVENSTON U.,	1	ARTHURLIE,	2
ALBION ROVERS,	1	JOHNSTONE,	0

PENMAN CUP.

ARMADALE,	2	COWDENBEATH,	1

EASTERN LEAGUE.

DUNFERMLINE A.,	4	EAST FIFE,	2
DUNDEE,	2	RAITH ROVERS,	5

ENGLISH LEAGUE.

Lancashire Section.

MANCHESTER C.,	4	BURNLEY,	1
BOLTON WAN.,	3	OLDHAM ATH.,	5
BLACKBURN R.,	0	SOUTHPORT C.,	1
PRESTON N.E.,	0	STOCKPORT CO.,	1
EVERTON,	3	STOKE,	2
ROCHDALE,	1	LIVERPOOL,	0
BURSLEM P.V.,	2	BURY,	2
BLACKPOOL,	2	MANCHESTER U.,	3

Midland Section.

SHEFFIELD UN.,	1	BRADFORD,	0
LEEDS CITY,	2	BARNSLEY,	1
GRIMSBY TOWN,	2	BIRMINGHAM,	2
LEICESTER FOS.,	3	HULL CITY,	1
LINCOLN CITY,	1	NOTTS COUNTY,	2
ROTHERHAM C.,	3	HUDDERSFLD T.,	1
BRADFORD CITY,	3	SHEFFIELD W.,	1

London Combination.

WEST HAM UNTD.,	3	THE ARSENAL,	2
Q.P. RANGERS,	0	CHELSEA,	1
CLAPTON OR.,	2	TOTTENHAM H.,	4
CRYSTAL PAL.,	1	MILLWALL,	5
FULHAM,	2	BRENTFORD,	0

BELFAST AND DISTRICT.

GLENTORAN,	1	DISTILLERY,	1
BELFAST UTD.,	2	GLENAVON,	1
LINFIELD,	3	CLIFTONVILLE,	0

GLASGOW JUNIOR LEAGUE.

PARKHEAD, 3 (M'Farlane 2, Mathie 1); STRATHCLYDE, 0.

MARYHILL, 0; CLYDEBANK JUNIORS, 2 (Stewart and Law).

SHETTLESTON, 2 (Laverick 2); LARKHALL THISTLE, 3 (Hart 2, Steel 1).

POLLOK, 2 (Lambie and Agnew); PETERSHILL, 3 (Gordon and Ramsay).

GLASGOW PERTHSHIRE, 1 (Kerr); RUTHERGLEN GLENCAIRN, 6 (Dempster 2, M'Lean 2, Burns and Shields).

ASHFIELD, 3 (Finlayson, Smith, and Campbell); ROB ROY, 2 (Galloway and Purdon).

CAMBUSLANG RANGERS, 2 (Whyte and Samuels); BENBURB, 1 (Barr).

BELLSHILL ATHLETIC, 3 (M'Hardy 2 and Mountney); VALE OF CLYDE, 2 (Simpson and Kelly).

SCOTTISH JUNIOR LEAGUE.

RENFREW JUNIORS, 2 (Reddie and Allan); ST ANTHONY'S, 1 (Muir).

KILSYTH RANGERS, 4 (Taylor 3, Goudie 1); YOKER ATHLETIC, 0.

ST PAUL'S UNITED, 2; CROY CELTIC, 1.

BURNBANK ATHLETIC 12 (Wilson 4, Dick 2, Stanage 2, Dainty 2, Cunningham 1, Orr 1); OATLANDS, 1 (Jamieson).

BLANTYRE VICTORIA, 0; PORT-GLASGOW JUNIORS, 0.

NEILSTON VICS., 2; KILSYTH EMMET, 2.

ST MIRREN JUNIORS, 2 (Howie and M'Lellan); GLENBOIG CAMERONIANS, 1 (Reid).

ABERDEEN AND DISTRICT AMATEUR LEAGUE.

GORDON HIGHLANDERS, 3; J. LEWIS & SON, ENGINEERS, 0.

RICHARD'S, LIMITED, BROADFORD WORKS, 2; FERRYHILL, 1.

CHARLES LYONS, 1; HALL & CO., 1.

HILTON, 2; WINDSOR, 1.

CARLTON, 2; LINXFIELD, 0.

TRAWLERS AND TRADERS, 6; HARPER'S, LIMITED, 2.

STRATH ENGINEERING CO., 2; J. M. HENDERSON'S ENGINEERS, 0.

ROSE ATHLETIC, 2; GLENWOOD, 1.

MUGIEMOSS, 1; AULTON, 1.

LOTHIANS LEAGUE.

WINCHBURGH VIOLET, 1 (Elder); BROXBURN ATHLETIC, 1 (Bertram).

IRVINE AND DISTRICT CUP TIE.

SALTCOATS CORINTHIANS, 1; GLENGARNOCK VALE, 1.

OTHER GAMES.

SOUTHAMPTON, 10; R.F.C., 2.

H.L.B., 4; A.S.C., 0.—At Cupar.

LADIES AT CELTIC PARK.

Lady munition workers at Parkhead Forge and Cardonald Projectile Factory played a match at Celtic Park yesterday in aid of the National Union of Journalists' Distress Fund. Teams:—

Parkhead Forge — M'Knell; Cooper and Baird; Reid, M'Dermott, and Elliott; Rush, Collins, M'Leish, M'Dermid, and Spence.

Cardonald Projectile Factory—Brown; M'Lellan and M'Donald; M'Murchie, M'Kenzie, and M'Kay; Earl, M'Kenzie, Wilson, M'Grath, and M'Millan.

Referee—Mr W. L. Kane, Glasgow.

Parkhead played with the wind. Cardonald broke away, but as the result of some clever and comical touches by the Parkhead ladies were driven back. Play was exciting. The Cardonald team had the bigger share of the praise in the first half, due to their good shooting. Half-time—No goals.

The second half saw Cardonald break away on the left, and Centre-Forward Miss M'Kenzie beat both backs and scored a fine goal. After this reverse the Parkhead ladies made an effort to reduce the leeway, but the Cardonald backs were too good for them. Goals were scored in quick succession by Miss Wilson, who had two to her credit. Another was scored by a player on the Parkhead side, who put it through her own goal.

Final—Cardonald Projectile Factory, 4; Parkhead Forge, 0.

POWDERHALL PEDS.

The concluding round of a 60 yards' dash, the preliminary heats of which were run off last Saturday, were decided yesterday. Of the twenty left in Sergeant Green, Edinburgh, was virtually scratch off six yards. Result:—1 (25s) J. Thomson, Dalkeith (20); 2 (15s) C. Martin, Edinburgh (15½); 3 (5s) J. Green, senior (14). Betting—5 to 2 on Thomson, 3 to 1 against Martin, 6 to 1 each Green and J. Campbell, Mid Calder (14½). Won by half a yard. Similar distance between second and third. Time—6 3-5 seconds.

BROWN, Celtic.

HEARTS' SURPRISE FOR MORTON AT CAPPIELOW.

CELTIC SUPPORTERS GET A FRIGHT AT FIR PARK.

BRISK COMMENTS ON ALL THE LEADING MATCHES.

M'CULLOCH, Dum'ton.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Celtic,	16	13	2	1	35	12	27
Kilmarnock,	18	12	4	2	41	18	26
Morton,	16	10	2	4	36	17	24
Rangers,	17	11	2	4	35	14	26
Partick Thistle,	17	8	2	7	25	11	23
Clydebank,	18	7	7	4	32	24	18
Dumbarton,	18	6	8	2	28	27	18
Motherwell,	18	6	7	5	36	36	17
Queen's Park,	18	6	8	4	34	36	16
Hamilton Acas.,	18	6	8	4	27	33	16
St Mirren,	18	6	8	4	24	27	16
Airdrieonians,	18	7	9	2	27	33	16
Falkirk,	18	6	9	3	23	30	15
Hibernian,	18	4	9	5	24	37	13
Hearts,	18	6	11	1	16	30	13
Third Lanark,	18	4	10	4	22	33	12
Clyde,	18	4	10	4	23	33	12
Ayr United,	18	2	11	5	14	33	9

HEARTS HAPPY.

HEARTS, 1; MORTON, 1.

Hearts showed good form at Greenock, where they surprised Morton by taking away one of the points. About 7000 were present. Wright was able to resume, having fully recovered from the effects of the injury he received in the Celtic match. Hearts had M'Lean and Barron for M'Intyre and Nellies, but the changes did not weaken. Faulty play by Ormonde gave the maroons an easy goal in the early minutes of the game. Dawson had followed up the ball, and a slip by the attack let him through, Bradford having simply no chance. Morton were some time in recovering from this surprise, and once they got moving, Broad, Gourlay, and Seymour gave the visitors' defence something to think about. Broad had splendid drives but no luck. From a penalty Morton, through Seamore, obtained the equaliser. Hearts opened up the play, and their dashes troubled the home defence.

The second half was much in favour of Morton. Their anxiety, combined with a sterling display by the Hearts' goalkeeper and backs, should not make for a victory. The visitors were capably served by Black, Kiernan, Lochhead, and Sinclair. On the Greenock side, Seymour, Gourlay, and Broad were the pick of the forwards. M'Intyre did useful work at half.

Morton—Bradford; Morrison and Ormonde; M'Intyre, Wright, and M'Lean; M'Nab, Gourlay, Broad, Stevenson, and Seymour.

Hearts — Black; Kiernan and M'Lean; Barnes, Lochhead, and Ross; Sinclair, Sharp, Miller, Dawson, and Honeyman.

LUCKY CELTS.

CELTIC, 4; MOTHERWELL, 3.

Celtic had a bit of luck yesterday in their ding-dong tussle at Fir Park. They were a very much beaten team in the first thirty minutes, and a less confident and resourceful lot would have sunk under the irresistible play of the Motherwell forwards, with Ferguson at top form, and Rankin as the headiest player afield. Right from the start things began to hum, and Ferguson put Motherwell one up with a beauty, the result of a perfect cross from Rankin. Morgan followed three minutes later, and left Shaw a very much beaten keeper. It looked as if it was to be Motherwell's day out, but Celts never lost grip, and the thrustful play of Browning, M'Atee, and M'Inally soon told. Close on half-time the reward came, and Jackson routed Rundell with a fast drive.

There was no lack of excitement in the second portion. Thrills came at the beginning, for Browning equalised immediately on the restart. The wizardry of Gallagher came into the picture, when a fine piece of work by Andy and Patsy ended in the latter nobbing Celtic's leading goal. The croakers decided that it was all up with Motherwell after that, but they were very much mistaken. Ferguson was strong and Cringan was hard put to it to keep him in check. Although experiencing the vilest of vile luck, the Motherwell pivot got in one of his fastest shots, which left Shaw standing. It was a great goal, and a draw it certainly looked, but Celts' luck was in all the way, and close on the call Gallagher gave M'Atee his opportunity, and M'Atee took it—and the leading goal. It was a great afternoon's excitement, a flattering result for Celts, who were best served by Gallagher, Browning, M'Atee, Cringan, and Dodds. Motherwell's best were Ferguson and Rankin. Rundell was good, and the backs pretty fair. The half-back line is still weak.

Motherwell—Rundell; Murray and M'Skimming; M'Intosh, Finlayson, and Stewart; Lennie, Rankin, Ferguson, Gardiner, and Morgan.

Celtic—Shaw; Wilson and Dodds; M'Inally, Cringan, and Brown; M'Atee, Gallagher, M'Lean, Jackson, and Browning.

"SONS" GOING STRONG.

DUMBARTON, 2; AIRDRIEONIANS, 0.

Dumbarton were at home for the second Saturday in succession, and had as visitors the 'Onians from Airdrie. On each side the defence was strong and able, and it was pretty to see how they warded off the attacks of the respective flying squads. In the first half no goals were scored, though there was much strenuous play, mostly confined to outfield.

The second half commenced in the same dour manner, and in twenty minutes the first goal of the match was scored. It was Ritchie who forced a corner, and sent in a beautiful ball. M'Culloch got it on his head and diverted it toward the crossbar. Bernard seemed ready to hold it easily, but the ball slipped between his fingers and the bar, much to his disgust. Thereafter Dumbarton, who had been the better side, maintained their hold on the game, and five minutes from time A. Thom added to the score. Then Airdrie were presented with a penalty, which was entrusted to Rankine, but he sent wildly past, and the game was lost and won. Dumbarton played one of their best games of the season. The backs were safe. Reeside was the best of the half-backs, and Ritchie and Thom gave M'Culloch many fine chances. For the visitors, M'Donald and Watson were strong, while Hart featured a vigorous half-back line. The forward division alone showed to disadvantage.

Dumbarton—Miller; M'Crory and Marshall; Durnin, Reeside, and M'Gregor; Ritchie, Potter, M'Culloch, Finnie, and Thom.

Airdrieonians—Bernard; M'Donald and Watson; Knox, Orr, and Hart; Rankin, Martin, Cairney, Donaldson, and Paterson.

PEELS AT HAMPDEN.

QUEEN'S PARK, 3; THIRD LANARK, 3.

Queen's claimed the first goal and Thirds the last, and in between the Cathkin side played an uphill game, and never took the lead. The game was never lacking in points of interest, and from a "paying" point of view it was one of the season's best. Both sides settled quickly. Thirds had first shot and Queen's first narrow squeak. It took the amateure eighteen minutes to chalk up a count. Aitken landed a flag kick, Robb saved but failed to clear, and in the subsequent scrimmage Paton shook the rigging from close range. Five minutes later Thirds equalised. Aitken initiated the movement. Love and M'Lean slipped it on, and Weir drove home. A picture movement with an O.K. ending. Alan Morton's second goal, which came after thirty-three minutes, was a real spectacular effort. He got the ball three-quarters field, shot past M'Cormack like a streak, and when challenged by Mackie he let drive, and Robb was beaten to the wide.

HANNAH, Thirds.

It was a sensational reopening for the "Reds," and M'Lean scored in the opening minute off Aitken's pass. Duncan saved M'Lean's first shot, but he got no chance with the rebound, as "Dave" had the drop on him close in. Queen's again took the lead after seventeen minutes. A free kick close on the border led up to an exciting passage, and Archie Cowan saw his chance and took it, and Robb was beaten close in on the upright. Three minutes later M'Lean got home for the double count. Brown did the running and M'Lean the shooting, and the score was levelled at three all. Queen's had all the better of the chances in the subsequent play, but a dour defence baffled them, and a level result correctly indicates the going. For Queen's Duncan kept a good goal. Stevenson was the better back, Cowan the crack of the middle line, and Aitken and Cresswell were the better wing, with Alan Morton always a successful factor in attack. Robb maintains a Brownlie standard for the Warriors. M'Cormack was the better back. Of three good halves Hannah was the most successful. Bissett's trickery didn't come off. M'Lean paid his way as a shot. Aitken played his best game for the Thirds. He was partnered by Love (Vale of Clyde), and the couple were the best wing afield. Attendance, 6000.

Queen's Park—H. Duncan; J. Stevenson and J. Neilson; A. Cowan, K. M'Kenzie, and A. Ford; W. J. Aitken, E. J. Cresswell, W. Grant, H. Paton, and A. L. Morton.

Third Lanark — Robb; M'Cormack and Mackie; "Wallace," Hannah, and Brown; Bissett, Weir, M'Lean, Love, and Aitken.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

AYR UNITED, 0; PARTICK THISTLE, 0.

History repeated itself at Somerset Park, Ayr, where Partick Thistle and Ayr United made a drawn game of it. There was a considerable rearrangement of both teams. The first thrill was provided in the opening minute by the Thistle. The ball was carried into Ayr territory, for Bowie to cross neatly to Gray. It was then a question of Lock or Gray, and the former, by executing a clever movement on the ground, got there first. This might well be described as the most promising chance the Jags had in this half, for the United subsequently did everything but score. Gibbon on one occasion lying handy finished poorly, while Thomson initiated a movement, which resulted in Crosbie having practically only the goalkeeper to beat, yet Ferguson's charge remained intact. Morton had also a good try, and the ball rattled the outside of the net. When Gibbon landed the ball in the net following a scrimmage "goal" was loudly proclaimed, but the point was struck off for offside.

M'NAUGHTON, Ayr.

The second half was pretty much a repetition of the first—largely a trial of strength between the opposing defences, and what shots were going were usually dealt with safely by the goalkeeper. Brown had many chances given him in the closing stages to make good. Thomson saw to it that he was well plied with the ball, but on only one occasion did he come within measurable distance of scoring, the ball striking the top of one of the uprights. Partick defence, and in particular Adams and M'Mullan, played in great style. Semple was easily the better of the Ayr backs, with Brewster showing to advantage at centre half. Forward for the visitors Bowie and Whittle were clever and resourceful. Ayr's two inside men were best, with Thomson creating many openings that went abegging.

Ayr—Watt; Cameron and Semple; Hay, Brewster, and M'Laughlan; Morton, Crosbie, Gibbon, Thomson, and Brown.

Partick Thistle—Ferguson; Adams and M'Laughlan; J. Harris, Gardner, and M'Mullan; Whittle, King, Reid, Brown, and Bowie.

EVEN DRAW AT EASTER ROAD.

HIBS. 1; HAMILTON ACAS., 1.

With Kerr, Paterson, and Kilpatrick unable to take the field, Hibs were in a predicament, which was got over by the inclusion of Gordon, Campbell, and Kennedy, of Clyde. The Accies made a good start, and showed some pretty forward movements, in which Kyle and M'Neill, well backed up by Graham at centre half, excelled. It was well for the Easter Road side that Smith and Dornan were in good form, otherwise an early downfall might have occurred. Hibs' first venture in the direction of Mason was instigated by Miller, who wriggled past several opponents very successfully, only to find that selfish play eventually has its reward. Smith was at this time probably the most successful outfield worker, and in M'Candless he found most ability to carry on his good work. Mason had an easy time, but M'Manus had quite a number of balls to deal with.

In the second period the most exciting passages were witnessed. Mason did well to put a shot from M'Candless over the bar, but at the other end Kelly improved on this by diverting a shot from close in past the watchful M'Manus. The lead was short-lived, however, Moir equalising within a few minutes. Hibs for a time were top-dog, but the Accies had not done yet, and made desperate efforts to gather in full points. A fine try by Greenhorn was held up by the uprights, and, later, Faulds, with only M'Manus in front of him, shot into the keeper's hands. At the other end Mason scooped out a likely effort by Meaney, but, taken all over, the game was really value for its result—a draw. For Hibs, M'Manus was in fine form, and was ably backed up by Smith and Dornan. Their forward line was very moderate, M'Candless being the pick of the bunch. On the Hamilton side, Miller, Graham, and Purdie in defence excelled, with M'Neil and Kyle the best of a fairly-good set of forwards.

Hibernians — M'Manus; Borthwick and Dornan; Kennedy, Gordon, and Smith; Campbell, Meaney, Miller, Moir, and M'Candless.

Hamilton Academicals—Mason; Robertson and Miller; Purdie, Graham, and Kerr; M'Neill, Kyle, Kelly, Faulds, and Greenhorn.

RINGS BY RANGERS.

RANGERS, 4; FALKIRK, 1.

It is evident that Rangers are out to make a bid for the championship. Their team against Falkirk contained all the cracks, and included Gordon and Brown. Falkirk's opposition was very poor, and the score is but poor indication of the superiority of the Ibrox team. Right off the Rangers' forwards played the long passing game to perfection. After a bit of exciting play the Rangers outside left shot hard, Allan saved, and the ball went to the foot of Cairns, who thought it easy to score, but the ball hit the bottom of the post. Then Gordon put in a ripper, but Allan again cleverly saved, and a corner came. After placing the corner kick, Archibald met the ball as it came back to the right and drove hard. It was a slanting shot, and Allan misjudged the flight. It was a deserved goal. Falkirk's forwards could not get going at all, and contrasted badly with the Rangers' line. The bulk of the work fell on the Falkirk half-backs, and although Comrie and M'Culloch stood up well they were over-weighted. M'Dermid's shooting and crossing was a feature. It was a picnic for Manderson and Blair. Archibald might have increased the lead, but he shot over from three yards. The second goal was Bowie's. He scored in a melee.

Even a slight breeze did not help Falkirk any on turning over, and although they had a run-down and Harvie sent past, Rangers were three up within two minutes of resumption. Brown blocked a return of M'Leod's, and scored a characteristic goal with three defenders looking on. Still, the Rangers were not content, and back again they came. A lovely cross by Cairns was netted by Brown after Allan had saved a point blank shot from Archibald and a long one from M'Dermid. After this Rangers slackened off. Dixon kept a hold of Harvie, but the inside men of Falkirk broke away. The ball went to Simpson who slewed across the goal and Croal, lying handy, popped past Hempsey. This was really the only ball that had gone in the region of Rangers' goal all the game. Falkirk made a mistake in not giving Simpson more of the ball. Sime was a weak member. M'Lean was seldom seen owing to the brilliance of Purcell. Rangers played out time with matters very much in their own hands. Archibald, Cairns, and M'Dermid played brilliant football, and Brown, to the nothing else of note, was valuable because of his goals. On the Falkirk side Allan, M'Leod, Comrie, M'Culloch, Simpson, and Harvie did well, but there was a lack of method in the whole team.

Rangers—Hempsey; Manderson and Blair; Gorden, Dixon, and Purcell; Archibald, Bowie, Croal, Cairns, and M'Dermid.

Falkirk — Allan; M'Millan and M'Lean; Sime, Comrie, and M'Culloch; Simpson, M'Lean, Harvie, Croall, and Sime.

CLYDE FALL AT HOME

CLYDE, 1; KILMARNOCK, 2.

Clyde's list of home failures was augmented versus Kilmarnock, when the Ayrshire combine got home by the odd goal in three. Both sides carried changes. O'Kane, once of Celtic fame, leading the home attack, while Culley was a prominent absentee for Kilmarnock. It was a game far from noteworthy for sustained brilliance. In what good points were in it the visitors had the first half, when they led by two goals. Prominent for Killie was Smith, the inside right. A clever forager, he got through after frequent attempts for the first goal. Low, fast drive beating Shingleton all the way. Closing in on the interval, M'Phail nipped up a good chance, and Shingleton had to throw up his hands for a second debit. Clyde didn't impress as finishers, and on their first-half display were well beaten on their merits. Clyde made better show in the latter forty-five, and when Howie fixed on a free-kick and beat Blair there were distinct possibilities in the game, and they went all the road for at least a divide. This was denied them by the excellent defence put up by the Killie men, but it provided a sporting finish, and, taking the play all over, Kilmarnock had it by method, and were worthy full points. For Clyde, Shingleton was safe, Thorpe was better back, Cowan outstanding at half, while forward none bettered Howie and M'Gowan. Kilmarnock were well served by Blair, Hamilton, Mitchell, Mackie, Smith, and M'Phail. Attendance, 4000.

Clyde — Shingleton; M'Lellan and Thorpe; Cowan, and Watson; Morris, M'Gowan, O'Kane, Howie, and Currie.

Kilmarnock—Blair; Hamilton and Mitchell; Anderson, Johnstone, and Mackie; T. Hamilton, Smith, Fulton, A. Goldie, and M'Phail.

£100 FOR FOOTBALL RESULTS.

Here is an opportunity of winning £100.

All you have to do is to forecast sixteen certain results. There is NO NEED TO GIVE SCORES.

The competitor who gives the sixteen correct results gets the £100. In the event of more than one competitor being correct the prize will be divided.

If no competitor sends in a coupon giving the sixteen correct results, a Consolation Prize of £10 will be awarded to the competitor who sends in the coupon with the largest number of correct results.

In the event of more than one competitor sending in a coupon with the same number of correct results, the Consolation Prize will be divided.

On the accompanying form you will find a list of sixteen matches which are to be played on Saturday, December 22.

RULES GOVERNING THE CONTEST.

Strike out in black ink the name of the club you think will lose. Any other form of mark will disqualify your entry. If in your opinion the game will end in a draw, leave the names of the competing teams.

In the event of any of the matches not being played or being abandoned or postponed, the prize of £100 will not be awarded, but the offer of consolation prize will still hold.

Any number of entry forms may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Any entry form on which an alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified.

Each competitor must give his or her real address and must write his or her signature and address in ink.

In all matters relating to this competition the Editor's decision is final and legally binding. Competitors may enter only on this understanding.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED ON DECEMBER 22.

Preston N.E.	v. Everton.
Blackpool	v. Rochdale.
Burnley	v. Manchester U.
Barnsley	v. Sheffield U.
Birmingham	v. Bradford C.
Sheffield W.	v. Rotherham.
Huddersfield T.	v. Lincoln City.
West Ham U.	v. Fulham.
Chelsea	v. Millwall.
Crystal P.	v. Tottenham H.
Airdrieonians	v. Ayr United.
Falkirk	v. Hibernian.
Hamilton A.	v. Morton.
Hearts	v. Motherwell.
Partick T.	v. Queen's Park.
St Mirren	v. Clyde.

I enter this competition in accordance with the printed conditions in "The Post Sunday Special," and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signature, ...

Address, ...

.....

.....

This competition is run in conjunction with "Weekly News."

The Editor cannot accept responsibility for loss or non-delivery of any entry form, and will accept proof of postage as proof of receipt or delivery.

No correspondence can be entered into in connection with this competition.

The Editor reserves the right to disqualify any entry, but agrees not to disqualify any entry without good and sufficient reason.

Entries must be sent by post addressed "£100 Results Editor," "The Post Sunday Special," 138 Port-Dundas Road, Glasgow, and posted so that they reach us not later than first post on Wednesday, December 19.

Football Contest Result—Matches Played December 8.

No one correctly forecasted all the results above contest, but three competitors submitted forms showing one error each, and consequently the prize of £10 is divided amongst them, their names and addresses being:—V. Jaunetta, 19 [illegible] Street, Dundee; David Scott, 164 [illegible] Aberhill, Methil; Samuel Wilding, 140 [illegible] Road, Haydock, near St Helens.

YDEBANK'S REVENGE.

LYDEBANK. 4; ST MIRREN, 1.

debank achieved a smart performance, revenged a three-to-one defeat at by beating St Mirren by 4-1 at holm. The homesters started brightly, erland and Travers testing Doolan. Durward and Marshall dashed to the end, only to be rewarded by a fruit- corner. A distinct misfortune befel St en when Callaghan had to retire. It during his absence that the Saints came to scoring. Pringle first rattled post, and then Marshall missed osely. In twenty minutes Clydebank ed the scoring. Croot gave Doolan a ne to hold high up in the corner, then ing the ball as the keeper returned it, sending it out to Shortt, that player ptly saw his chance, and from 30 yards drove a beautiful goal over Doolan's Within three minutes the homesters further ahead. Goldie and Brander ted some clever work on the right, and, ball coming from the inside man, erland gave Doolan no chance from range. Callaghan returned and went de right, Pringle going centre, and hall falling back beside Orrock. For me the real Saints were seen, but the debank defence was steady. It was no than the visitors' due, however, when ng the ball from the right wing. Scho- the Linfield man, suddenly reduced feway, and opened St Mirren's account. ve minutes of the second half had gone Goldie and Brander got the Paisley ce into a tangle, and Doolan, clearing ly from the inside right, Sutherland, was lying handy, put the homesters her ahead. Goldie rushed off again on right, and, securing the ball from Croot, e hard at Doolan, who saved, but re he could effect a decisive clearance erland ran in, and, completing his hat , scored the fourth goal for Clydebank. debank deserved their win. Walker, rtt, Neish, Croot, Sutherland, and urk were best for the winners. Orrock been seen to better advantage, and the ts' halves got more than they were able Of the forwards, Marshall, Schofield, Durward were best.

debank—M'Turk; Law and Ferguson; Walker, t, and Neish; Goldie, Brander, Sutherland, rs, and Croot.

Mirren—Doolan; Orrock and Callaghan; Brown, n, and Walls; Pringle, Lindsay, Marshall, field, and Durward.

WESTERN CUP.

VALE VANQUISHED.

ERCORN, 2; VALE OF LEVEN, 1.

ather curiously, while the goals were ed in the first half of this match at dley, the best of the play took place in closing period, when the work of both s was highly creditable. A general ey of the game gives preference to the k of the defences. In the home ranks ith was in his usual good form, and r did remarkably well. Sankey, dy, and Robertson put in a lot of clever k. The new men in the Abercorn's ck—Livingston and Marshall—were ful, Young being the best. He scored goals from fine passes by R. Black, was well served by Fitzgerald. For Vale, Mooney, Clark, M'Eachran, His- Graham, Malley, and Stewart carried the honours. Malley scored the Vale's l.

AWAY WIN FOR ARTHURLIE.

EVENSTON U., 1; ARTHURLIE, 2.

t Stevenston. Both teams were strongly resented, and a very fast game was the tome, the exchanges being rapid and al. Shortly before the interval, Crich- on the Arthurlie left, after a fine vidual effort from mid-field, sent the across the United's goal. White en- voured to make a clearance, but failed, Stewart sent the ball into the net. arly on in the second half the home n conceded a foul, which was well placed richton, who took the ball well forward, crossed nicely to Stewart. He, with White to beat, easily added a second . The United then attacked, and at Steel netted for them. Although ted had the better of the play after this, their forwards failed to make good.

SCRAPED THROUGH.

BION ROVERS, 1; JOHNSTONE, 0.

he official referee failed to put in an arance, and both sides agreed to play tie with a local man in charge of the tle. The game was played on Meadow k, Whifflet, and there was a large attend- . The ground was a bit tereacherous, from the run of play it was quite ap- nt that neither side was anxious to run s. During the first half the Rovers had pull, but their finishing was palpably k, and it was only with the aid of a ly that they were able to score, Joe ace doing the needful.

the second half the visitors were more ressive, but they also lacked shooting cies. Five minutes from the call of a second penalty was awarded the ers, but they failed to improve on this. game was the scrappiest seen on the dow this season. The 'Brig club never into their stride, and were lucky to by a penalty goal.

A GOOD DRAW.

ENTON, 2; DUMBARTON HARP, 2.

his game at Renton attracted a thousand tators. Renton were minus Cooke, their re forward, Welsh leading the attack in stead. The Harp were without Robert- whose place at right back was taken by rum, while Newman figured at right Fifteen minutes after the start Hosie Renton the lead from a corner kick, e after a like period Wightman added a nd, which beat Wharrier all the way. minutes later Thomson, from a scrim- e, scored for the Harp. At the interval ton led by two goals to one.

ere were quite a number of exciting ges in the second half. Fifteen minutes time Brodie, the ex-Celtic player, ised with a low shot, to the joy of the contingent. A draw was quite a cor- verdict on the run of the play.

PENMAN CUP.

EXCITING GAME.

ARMADALE, 2; COWDENBEATH, 1.

On a frozen pitch at Armadale, Armadale and Cowdenbeath engaged in their replay of last season's semi-final of the Penman Cup. Cowdenbeath had to find a substitute for Stewart, their regular custodian, while Armadale had to carry a weak defence. It was soon evident that both sides were in a do-or-die mood. Twice corners were forced by Birrell and Brown, and M'Kinlay met every onset successfully. Then Cowdenbeath found Armadale's weakness, and fine combined attacks were made. Grant stood up well to them, as did also the halves, but both backs were shaky. After being twice "beated," M'Kay, on a third asking, got the ball into the net. It was a rather peculiarly-got goal. M'Kay shot in, Grant drove the ball back against M'Kay, slipping as he did so. The force of the ball knocked M'Kay down, but the ball rebounded back into the net. Armadale made strong tries for the equaliser, but without avail.

In the second half Armadale rearranged their front rank, Dick and Herd, also Forrester and Hendry, changing places. Cowdenbeath conceded a corner within a minute, but nothing accrued. In turn, Hardie and Dick, for Armadale, and Gibbons, for Cowdenbeath, were temporarily disabled. After twenty-five minutes' strenuous play, Armadale, through a grand shot by Dick, secured the equaliser. Several minutes later, following a corner conceded by Brown, a scrimmage took place in front of M'Kinlay, and Dick scored. Several Cowdenbeath players maintained that the ball had been handled. Gillespie persisted in arguing with the referee, and was sent to the pavilion. Cowdenbeath, led by M'Kay, had a grand charge, but their luck was out. With five minutes to go, Gibbons was again injured. Even with nine men Cowdenbeath forced matters, but they failed to score in the second half.

EASTERN LEAGUE.

DUNDEE, 2; RAITH ROVERS, 5.

Raith Rovers well deserved the points they won at Dens Park. About 3000 spectators witnessed the game. Dundee opened in good style, and for a considerable period were more or less aggressive. After twenty minutes' play, Taylor centred, and culminated a stirring attack by scoring. Subsequently the Rovers carried the ball downfield, and Young sending across to Abbott, his shot found the net, Anderson failing to hold the ball, which rolled over the line a few inches only. Immediately afterwards the visitors obtained a second. Young, after beating Burns, shot into goal. Anderson brought off a weak save, and the ball bouncing out to Burrell, he sent into the net. Dundee later gave promise of equalising, but their shooting was poor. Close on the interval the Rovers notched a third as a result of some slackness in front of the home goal. Wightman was the marksman.

Dundee registered early in the second half. Murray on this occasion netted with a ball sent over from the right by Herron. Ten mintes later Raith obtained their fourth goal through Abbott, and later Murray, for Dundee, missed an open goal. Play was now more or less in favour of the visitors, and in the end Myles added a fifth. Dundee lost through want of cohesion in the front line. The defence was none too reliable on occasions, and the Rovers obtained three of their goals in simple fashion. Young, on the right wing, was the outstanding man for the visitors, who were also well served by Stewart, Myles, Abbott, and Wightman. Dundee were disappointed in their centre forward, Taylor. Husson and Nairn were the best in the back division, and Herron and Murray forward.

Dundee — Anderson; Husson and Burns; Nairn, Stirling, and Duffus; Herron, Moyes, Taylor, Murray, and M'Cann.

Raith Rovers—Kerr; Stewart and Robson; Lowther, Myles, and Currie; Young, Abbott, Burrell, Wightman, and M'Kinnon.

EAST FIFE'S FAILURE.

DUNFERMLINE ATH., 4; EAST FIFE 2.

This game at Dunfermline was a mixture of bright and dull play, but on the whole was fairly even and interesting. The frost-bound ground considerably hampered the movements of the players, and the opening exchanges were quiet. Dunfermline drew first blood through Locke. Despite strong attempts by East Fife to equalise, Walker put on another, and they crossed over with a lead of two goals.

East Fife scored a soft goal after a few minutes in the second half, Sellar slipping in endeavouring to get at a strong shot by Newbigging. Showing improved form, the Methilites kept the Athletic to their own end for a time, but they broke away when least expected, Locke scoring with a great shot. Newbigging reduced the leaway for East Fife in a mix-up, and in the last minutes W. Fisher scored an easy goal for Dunfermline. For the winners, who deserved their victory, Sellar, Bailey, Brown, Bennett, Locke, and Roberston were much in evidence. East Fife's most serviceable men were Bennett, Allan, Henderson, Johnstone, and M'Mahon.

£50 TROT.

At the Victoria Racecourse, Glasgow, Baby II., last week's winner at Wester Carntyne, again carried off first prize, getting the verdict by two and a half lengths from Willie H., with only a head dividing Katie G. for third place. Final—1 (£30) Mr Pass' Baby II. (10 yards); 2 (£7) Mr Hugh's Willie H. (scratch); 3 (£3) Mr Girken's Katie G. (150 yards). Also ran—Mr Hugh's Jack of Diamonds (30 yards), Mr Houston's Miss Kenilwood (25 yards), and Wm. Ferguson's Skipper (10 yards). Betting—5 to 4 on Baby II., 2 to 1 against Willie H., 3 to 1 against Katie G., 10 to 1 Jack of Diamonds, Skipper, and Miss Kenilwood. Won by two and a half lengths. A head divided second and third. Time—2 min. 33 secs. £10 divided among heat-winners.

BILLIARDS.

Stevenson,	...	...	16,000
Reece (receives 900),		...	14,725

Celts can play an uphill game.

The Fifers' bonnets were up at Dundee.

Love made a promising debut for the Third Lanark. The Vale of Clyde boy has come to stay.

WHIPPETING.

GLASGOW.

Last week's event was finished off in four semi-finals and a final, after which heats for a new event was then started. First Semi-Final—Mr Jack's Bothwell Castle (36½). Second Semi-Final—Mr Gallon's Hairy Shields (38½). Third Semi-Final—Mr Gourlay's Winwick (24). Fourth Semi-Final—Mr Legrat's Rory (29½). Final—1 (£20), Mr Jack's Bothwell Castle; 2 (£3), Mr Gallon's Harry Shields; 3, Mr Gourlay's Winwick. Also ran—Mr Legatt's Rory (29½). Betting—5 to 4 on Harry Shields, 2 to 1 Bothwell Castle, 3 to 1 Winwick, 5 to 1 Rory. Exciting finish. Won by inches.

200 Yards Open Handicap (first prise £21, second prize £3) Heat Winners:—M'Kinnon's Signorina (28½), Mark's No Use (27), M'Naul's Master Bill (26), Ross' Snooks (21½), Rice's Dear Mary (22), Osborne's Lily of the Valley (27½), M'Cue's Dawn (32), George's Duchess (29½), Hepburn's Nellie Deans (23½), Morton's My Lizzie (33½), Kildew's Fanny (12), Willis' Willie Reid (32), Craig's Half Crown (28), "Ned's" Sunridge (35½), Savage's Rasp (36), Purdie's Amusements (20½), Sern's Lock Sharp (21½), Dickson's White Feet (21), Jack's Lambhill Maid (34½), —'s Keating's Powder (27), Cullen's Silver Bells (28), Campbell's Stand Fast (19½), Heaney's White Socks (34), Millar's Final Shot (25½), Mitchell's Glad Eye (24½), Aitken's Jessie Shaw (25), M'Gibbon's Take Care (24½), King's Tyrone Lass (32), Gilchrist's Wee Jenny (30), Burnie's Foam (34½), and Sutherland's Summer Time (21½) (dead heat), M'Donald's Heatherbell (26½).

COATBRIDGE.

There was a large entry. Results:—First Semi-Final—1 Maxwell's Mischief (40); 2 Gardner's Sundoud (33). Second Semi-Final—1 Irvine's Soldier (30); 2 Nicol's Strolling Saint (33). Third Semi-Final—Hamilton's Jem Mace (32); 2 Scott's Daisy (33). Final—1 Soldier, 2 Mischief. Betting—Evens. The following were the winners in the heats of new handicap:—Irvine's Policeman (29), Ashwood's Telegram (41), M'Cue's Sweet Report (40), M'Cabe's Black Knight (36), Cuthbertson's Seashore (36), Winnan's Run On (37), Miller's Baker (38), Gallagher's Chapelhall Lass (35), Murray's Kate II. (29), Shank's Don't Finish (38), Low's Trilby (39), Cooper's Young Nan (37), Cullen's My Pet (32), Hughes' Wee Jean (22), Docherty's Ragged Lass (33), Almond's Black Blend (30), M'Phie's Post Boy (36), Rae's Miss Agnes (40), Ferguson's Chapelhill Boy (34), Allan's Honour Bright (36), M'Mahon's Wee Jim (32), Willie's Whiffler Boy (39), Hamilton's Nellie Ray (34), M'Cann's Happy Kate (38).

EDINBURGH.

The 190 yards handicap at Powderhall attracted nearly 220 runners in thirty-one heats. The finalists were:—Lees' (Leith) Cheers (33); Malcolm's (Edinburgh) Tide Time (35); Jack's (Grangemouth) Come Away (35); Rankine's (Ayr) Star o' Doon (34); Darby's (Uphall) Black Knight (30). Result:—(£8) Cheers; other finalists, 10s each. Betting—6 to 4 on Cheers, 2 to 1 against Star o' Doon, 5 to 1 Black Knight, 10 to 1 Come Away and Tide Time. A well-contested race. Cheers won by a narrow margin. Time—10⅘ secs. The same dog won the handicap last Saturday.

LOCHGELLLY.

1 Mr Anderson's (Bowhill) Wee Bess (20½); 2 Mr Leitch's (Denbeath) Firefly (13); 3 Mr M'Fadyen's (Lumphinnan) Review (20); 4 Mr Shaw's (Cardenden) Poleen (13½). Betting—2 to 1 against Wee Bess. The final was won by inches.

QUOITING.

John M'Kean, Camelon, 41; George Stoddart, Carron, 38. £20 match at Falkirk yesterday.

A Tarbrax correspondent points out that the match between John M'Bride (East Calder) and James Walkinshaw (Carnwath) is off on New Year's Day, as M'Bride refuses to play till the spring.

"Disc" learns that Willie Watters refuses to defend his title as the Scottish champion against Walkinshaw's challenge.

Walkinshaw asks for a match elsewhere, and puts down "Durney preferred."

A Braidwood Challenge.—A. Caldwell, Braidwood, is forward with a challenge to play John Kerr, Law, for £10 a-side, 61 up at 18 yards. If nothing doing will take 10 shots, and play his stable companion, A. Purdie.

W. Hogg, Cumnock, and W. Harper, Riccarton, are tied at 15 yards for £40. Hurtford's the venue on the third day of the New Year. Spot your fancy.

Stewart, Springside, had an easy mastery over Sprott, of New Cumnock. Up to half-game it was quite "sporty," but Stewart put on the screw, and lifted the £50, with a score of 61-30.

Kilpatrick and Allan played before an £18 gate at Larkhall. The Muirkirk crack won, 61-58. Allan made many friends by his plucky, all-round display.

J. Gray, of Coalburn, would like to try his mettle against J. Kilpatrick. The Muirkirk man is willing.

J. Kilpatrick, the Muirkirk crack, has thirteen victories out of fifteen matches to his credit. He owns to twenty-one years.

Harry Winters and Kilpatrick are likely to try conclusions at Paisley. A good draw this.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

London, Saturday Night.

Under normal conditions Stock markets at this time of the year are cheerful, if not active. Recent events in connection with the war have, however, produced a decidedly different state of things.

As far as the Iron and Steel division is concerned, interest has been revived here by the official announcement of a £4,000,000 combine, headed by the Workington Iron and Steel Company.

These shares have often been referred to in these columns in favourable terms, and after rising to 30s 6d, now stand at 29s 6d. On the basis of the distribution of 10 per cent. per annum for the last two years, they still offer a return of about 7 per cent. per annum, without allowing for the possibilities of the future.

The fresh rise in Liptons has been a feature, the price being something over 25s, so that the war has evidently done this company a lot of good.

Rubbers in Adversity.

For some time past the Rubber share market has borne more or less patiently the effects of the Excess Profits Duty upon dividends of many companies. The position of the younger companies, upon which the duty falls to an unduly large extent, is certainly one which causes concern.

There is the Tandjong, for instance. This is one of the soundest companies, but, although it earned 63 per cent. for the past year, it was only able to pay 25 per cent. dividend, as against 30 per cent. for the preceding year.

The Bukit Kajang had a profit of £77,165, as against £62,446 for the preceding year, but this is not reflected by the dividend, which is simply unchanged at 35 per cent.

The Tebrau, however, has been the biggest sufferer, and has not been able to add anything to the 10 per cent. interim dividend for the past year, as against 35 per cent. for the preceding year.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has the welfare of the Plantation Rubber industry in his care, and it is up to him to see that it is not strangled by the crushing burden of taxation.

Oils Lose Their Bloom.

Oil shares have lost a little of their bloom, and it is not surprising that some holders have been taking profits and putting them into War Bonds.

Burmahs have been chiefly affected by this circumstance, and, on sales from the north, have changed hands down to 7, and now stand at about 7⅛.

Shell Transports have been well held at 5⅛ ex 2s per share dividend.

Trinidad Dominions has sold some of its lands on advantageous terms, and the shares have been a good feature at around 6s 9d.

The Mining Market.

Mining markets have generally been very depressed in view of realisations, and New Modderfontein are down at 22⅝, and Modder "B" at 8 7-16.

In Rhodesians, Reconde are down at 4, and Tanganyika, which had been very firm, relapsed to 3 7-16 on sales to exchange into National War Bonds.

GREY HAIR EPIDEMIC!

Is 'Father Time' or 'War Time' Responsible?

GRATIS "TEST" TREATMENT FOR ALL WHO DESIRE TO RESTORE YOUTHFUL HAIR COLOUR.

THERE is a wide gulf that separates the grey-haired women (and men, too) from those around them.

"Grey-haired" is a stigma unpleasant to experience. Thousands to-day bear this sign of old age, without the least need to. For grey hair has been conquered by the discovery of a wonderful new preparation, which is not a dye or stain, but actually, when applied to the hair, restores its true, original colour within the hair.

Women, particularly, who are grey or turning grey, and who feel that whilst so many men are keeping fit and well trained in the great British Army, they are getting older, this great discovery will help.

ASTOL IS NOT A DYE OR STAIN

No woman of refinement cares to use a messy, harmful, hair-poisoning dye or stain. Neither would she face age-giving greyness.

"Astol" is her great opportunity to restore her grey hair to its natural colour by a simple "Few-Minutes-a-Day" method, which never fails.

"Astol," as the evidence of a number of society

More often than you ask the time of day you yourself have your age appraised by all who see you. If your hair is grey, or going grey, your age is estimated at more than it really is. Send for a Free Trial "Astol" Outfit, and see how you can take 10 to 15 years off your age appearance

men and women who have used it conclusively proves, will immediately restore your lost hair colour.

This statement you are invited to test free of cost or obligation.

CONTENTS OF "ASTOL" FREE TRIAL PARCEL

1. A Trial Bottle of "Astol"—the new scientific preparation which, applied for a few minutes to the hair in the morning, immediately commences to restore your own rich, youthful hair colour.

2. A packet of "Cremex" Shampoo Powder, the wonderful Hair and Scalp cleanser, which prepares the hair for the use of "Astol."

3. A copy of the famous book, "Good News for the Grey-Haired."

Readers will learn with interest that the discovery of "Astol" is due to the inventor-discoverer of "Harlene Hair-Drill," and the hundreds of thousands who have adopted this "Back-to-Youth" Astol method are now congratulating themselves that they have taken years from their appearance while greatly beautifying their hair.

After you have once seen for yourself the effect of "Astol" you can obtain further supplies from any chemist at 3s. and 5s. a bottle; "Cremex," 1s 1½d. per box of seven packets (single packets 2d.), or direct, post free on remittance, from Edwards' Harlene, Ltd., 20, 21, 24, and 26, Lamb's Conduit-street, London, W.C.1. Carriage extra on foreign orders. Cheques and P.O.s should be crossed.

FREE TO THE GREY-HAIRED

Detach and post to EDWARDS' HARLENE, Ltd., 20-22-24-26 Lamb's Conduit St., London, W.C.1.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me a Free Trial Supply of "Astol" and packet of "Cremex" Shampoo Powder, with full instructions as announced. I enclose 3d. stamps for postage and packing.

NOTE TO READER.

Write your full name and address clearly on a plain piece of paper, pin this Coupon to it, and post as directed as above. Mark envelope "Sample Dept."

"Sunday Post," 16/12/17.

Our portrait is of Mrs. MANLEY, 6 Hammersley Lane, Wycombe Marsh, Bucks., who writes:—

"Thanks to 'Clarke's Blood Mixture,' I have avoided another operation for diseased abscesses in the glands. Two years previous to taking 'Clarke's Blood Mixture' I had two operations, but all the swellings did not go down, and this year, owing to getting run down, again had them. I was under medical treatment, and would have had another operation; then my husband persuaded me to try 'Clarke's Blood Mixture,' I did so, and shall always be thankful I did. After the fifth day all the old places began to draw and tag as if there was still some matter left in them, and after five bottles I was quite cured. It is some time since I finished the last bottle, and I have had no return."

Clarke's Blood Mixture, by reason of its remarkable blood purifying properties, can be relied upon to give quick relief and lasting benefit in all cases of Eczema, Scrofula, Scurvy, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Boils, Pimples, Sores and Eruptions, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Gout, &c. Thousands of truly wonderful cures stand to its credit. Pleasant to take, and free from anything injurious.

ASK FOR AND SEE YOU GET

Clarke's Blood Mixture

"EVERYBODY'S BLOOD PURIFIER."

Of all Chemists and Stores, 2/9 per Bottle.

GIGANTIC SALE

ARMY BOOTS ANY SIZE.

Special offer to Munition Workers, Railwaymen, Police, Postmen, Miners, Dockers, Tram, Bus, Van, and Taxi-Drivers, Gasworkers, Gardeners, Farm Hands, and all working men.

FINEST BOOTS IN WORLD WILL OUTWEAR 2 PAIRS COSTING DOUBLE

9/3

Postage and Packing, 9d. Every pair on approval. Money back if not satisfied.

GUARANTEED GENUINE GOVERNMENT LEATHER. Repa red equal to new. Send 10/- note or P.O., or better still, secure 2 or 3 pairs now before price advances. State size whether studded or non-studded preferred, to—

WHOLESALE ARMY BOOT CO. (Room 18. 43, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.

TRADE AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE. *Send Trade Letterhead for Trade Price List.*

COCHRANE'S HELP YOU to start a business of your own. Make money selling genuine bargains. Drapery remnants, ready-mades, handkerchiefs. Write for catalogue. Cochrane's Warehouse, 24 Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

EXPLOSIVE cigarettes, bombs, tickyhoo, smoking, 30 samples, 2s 6d. Britton, Linwood St., Manchester. 4163

HOLLY Bough monster box of 25 Christmas cards; best value of the year, worth 5s; post free 1s 9d. Hampton's, 9 Scott St., Perth, N.B.

"OBERJU" rheumatic cure, 1/3. Only genuine signed. Mackay M'Cort, Lauriston Pl., Edinburgh.

REMNANTS.—We carry one of the largest stocks in the trade of all kinds of cotton and wool goods. Also ready-mades and smallwares. Send for price-list, free. S. Andrew & Co., 30 George St. Manchester. Established 25 years.

The Serviceable Christmas Gift.

SWAN FOUNTPEN

At Pre-War Prices. From 10/6.

OF ALL STATIONERS & JEWELLERS. *Catalogue Post Free.*

MABIE, TODD & CO. LTD., 79 & 80, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

PAIN KILLED.

SIMPLE HOME REMEDY. Trial Package Free To-Day.

Are you in pain? This is the question you will hear daily and to be able to relieve pain, whether it be a slight nervous headache or the most excruciating sufferings of neuralgia or rheumatism, brings the height of pleasure to both patient and doctor.

Touching this point, Dr Robbins says Antikamnia Tablets have become favourites with members of the medical profession, they are very reliable in all kinds of pain, and act at once.

Antikamnia Tablets never fail to give relief in all pains due to rheumatism, headache, sciatica, neuralgia, toothache, gout, and are especially useful for all conditions known as women's aches and pains.

Antikamnia Tablets are quite safe, and leave no unpleasant after-effects, and in 92 per cent. of all cases they stop the pain immediately.

TRIAL PACKAGES FREE.

10,000 packages of Antikamnia Tablets have been set aside for free distribution. If you will send your name and address in postcard will do to Antikamnia Dept. (A29), 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., you will receive one of these presentation packages with interesting booklet absolutely free of charge

Celtic got a hard run at Motherwell.

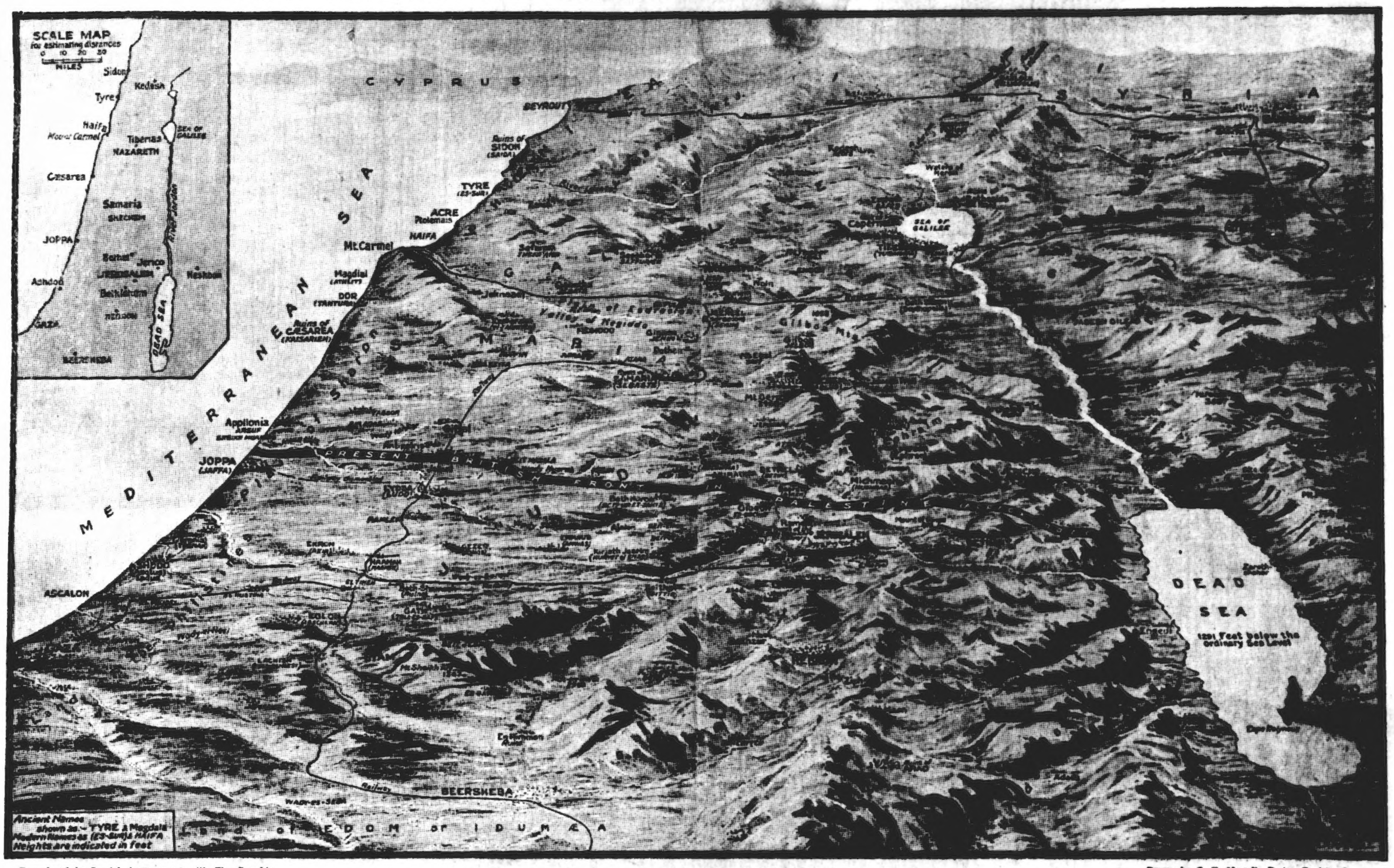
M'Inally, who played for Celts at Motherwell, who is an old schoolboy.

Armadale are Penman Cup finalists.

Did Morton let you down in your forecast?

The Post
Sunday Special
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1917.

OUR SUCCESSES IN PALESTINE—OPERATIONS AT A GLANCE.



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Considering that some 18 years ago the Kaiser made a showman-like tour of Palestine, entering Jerusalem arrayed as a Crusader, with gleaming helmet, and wearing a white robe with a red cross upon it, and passing through a breach made in the walls because the procession was so big, the former Potsdam Pilgrim must be feeling very sick just now. General Allenby, by his masterful strategy, has obtained the Golden City by the most pacific method possible in actual warfare, namely, a wide encircling movement that secured the city intact without firing a single shot into it or over it. The character of the country through which our men, including many Scottish troops, made their splendid progress is shown in detail in this bird's-eye view over the Holy Land. Only six weeks ago the British line extended from Gaza to Beersheba, along the bottom of the map; the main lines of advance were, first, along the railway and ancient coast road to Joppa, taken on November 17, also north-easterly to Nebi Samwil, stormed November 21. The second line of advance was made by Home County and Welsh troops northwards from Beersheba, through the mountains to Hebron and Bethlehem. Then, by a wide encircling advance to the east of Jerusalem and Bethany, crossing the Jericho road, they came in touch with the London Infantry and dismounted Yeomanry, who had advanced from the Nebi Samwil positions and seized the northern road to Shechem, and so the city peacefully passed out of the hands of the Turks.

A BIBLICAL KEY TO THE MAP (Giving References to Some of the Historic Incidents at Places Marked).

GAZA.—Judges xvi. (3).
Samson carries away the gates of the city.
(30)
Pulls down the pillars on the Philistines.
ETAM (Lehi).—Judges xv (15).
Samson slays 1000 men with jawbone of an ass.
ASKALON.—Judges xiv. (19).
Samson slays 30 men to obtain changes of garments for the men who answered his riddle.

SIDON.—I. Kings, v. (6).
Famous for its timber exports in Solomon's time.
BETHLEHEM.—Ruth i. (19-22).
Naomi and Ruth return to Bethlehem.
I. Samuel xvi. (13)
David annointed.
St. Matthew i. &c.
Christ's birthplace.
LYDDA.—Acts ix. (34).

BETHEL.—Gen. xxxv. (1).
Altar built by Jacob, where stone (coronation stone) of Scone now at Westminster Abbey came from.
CAESAREA.—Acts xxiii. (23-24).
Paul appears before Felix.
TYRE.—Ezekiel xxvii.
Destroyed according to prophecies of Ezekiel.
PTOLEMAIS (Acre).—Acts xxi. (8).
Paul at the house of Philip the evangelist
CAPERNAUM.—Matthew iv. (13, 17-24), John iv. (46).
Scene of Christ's miracles.

NAZARETH.—Matthew ii. (23).
Christ's infancy.
SAMARIA.—I. Kings, xv. (24).
City built by Omri.
St. Luke ix. (52-56).
Jesus is rejected.
JACOB'S WELL.—John, iv. (7).
Christ's meeting with woman of Samaria.
ARIMATHEA (Ramah).—Matthew xxvii. (57).
Home of Joseph, who buried Christ in his tomb.
DAMASCUS.—Gen. xv. (2).
Referred to as oldest inhabited city.
Acts ix. (2, 11 and 18).

JERUSALEM.—I. Samuel, v. (7).
David took Jerusalem and called it castle of Zion.
II. Chronicles, xii. (9).
Invaded from Egypt.
Jeremiah lii. (4).
Invaded from Mesopotamia (Babylon).
Luke
Christ Jesus presented in Temple.
Luke
Jesus enters Jerusalem in triumph.
Luke
Jesus laments over Jerusalem.
John

Matthew xxvii. (31-38).
Christ's crucifiction.
MOUNT PISGAH.—Deut. xxxiv. (1).
Moses views promised land of Canaan
MOUNT NEBO.—Deut. xxxiv. (5).
Moses' burial place.
SEA OF GALILEE.—Luke viii (23-24).
Christ stills the tempest
Matthew
Mark
Luke
Christ walks on the sea
Matthew
Mark
John
Christ appears after the Resurrection
Luke
John

LONGING FOR BRITISH RULE.

The people of Palestine themselves have never appreciated the Kaiser's efforts to force his influence in the Holy Land. When Wilhelm made his memorable circus-like tour, and even had the audacity to preach a sermon in Jerusalem, he was merely looked upon as a vain Imperial showman. Long before the present war the people were wearying for British rule. They hated Turkish rule, and they knew that Turkish partnership with Germany meant a cruel fate.

GERMAN HOPE BLASTED

There is no doubt that the Hedjaz Railway was not built so to give assistance to the pilgrims bound for the Sudan, but was intended as a line of communication for the German troops themselves. It links the German systems in Asia and Mesopotamia, and through Syria with the European railway system. It passes conveniently near the borders of Egypt, and the name, no doubt, meant it to be a high road to Egypt.

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